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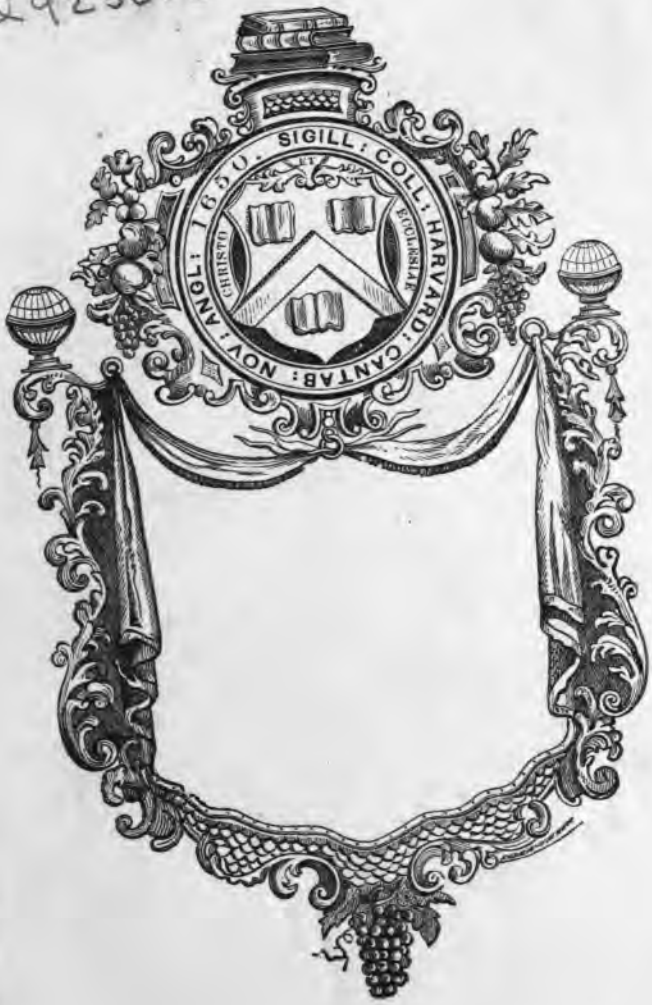
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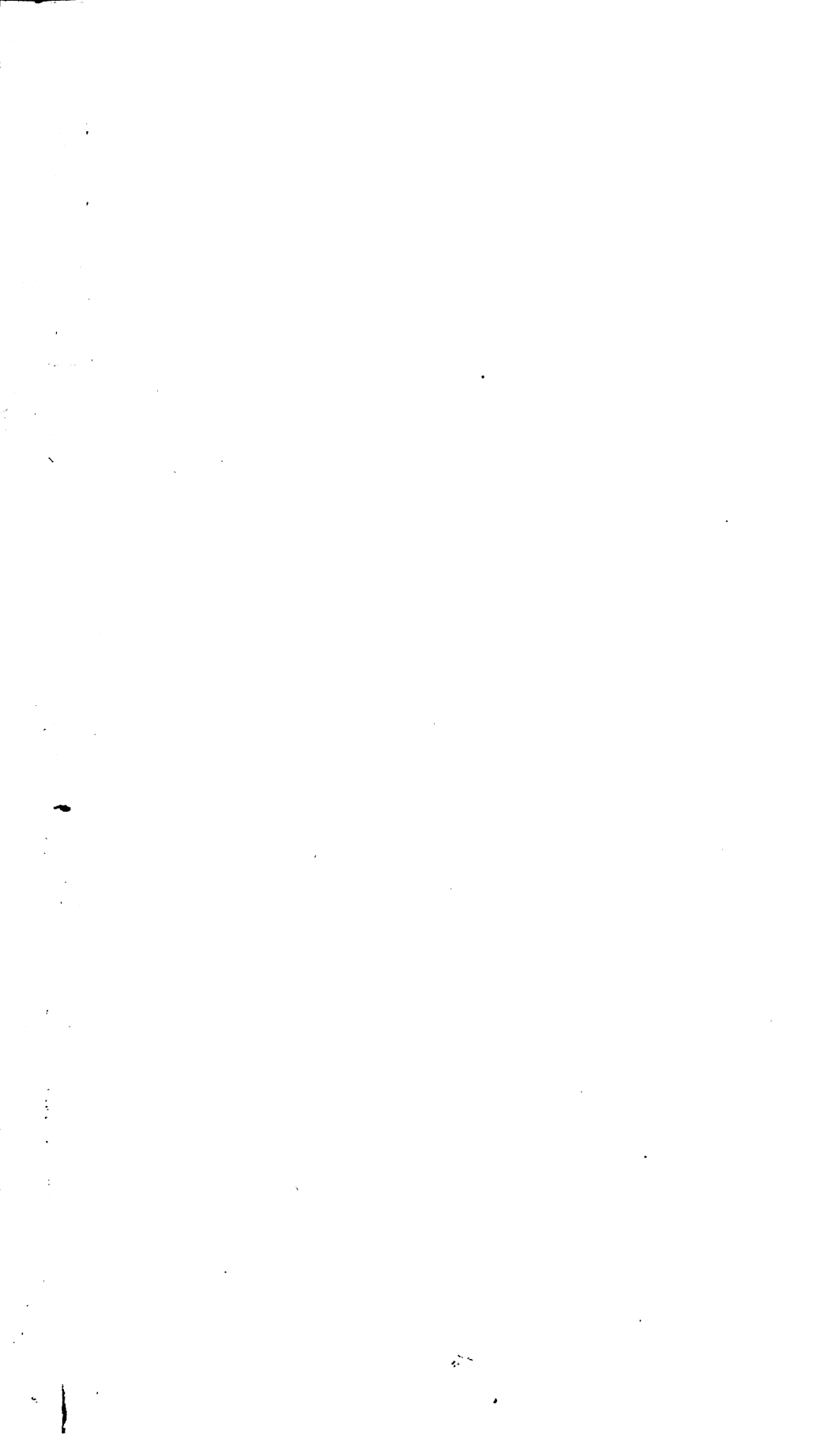
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See Title Page

LECTURE ON LOTTERIES,

BY GEO. WM. GORDON,

BEFORE THE

BOSTON YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY.

A

LECTURE

BEFORE THE

BOSTON YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY,

ON THE SUBJECT OF

LOTTERIES.

Delivered March 12, 1833.

BY GEORGE WILLIAM GORDON.

—————"This outward sainted deputy,—
Whose settled visage and deliberate word
Nips youth i' the head, and follies doth emmew,
As falcon doth the fowl—is yet a devil;
His filth within being cast, he would appear
A pond as deep as hell!".....*Shakspeare.*

—◆—
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Boston, May 2, 1833.

MR. G. W. GORDON,

Dear Sir,

At the last meeting of the Boston Young Men's Society, we were appointed a Committee to present to you their thanks for the highly interesting and instructive Lecture on Lotteries delivered by you at their request, and to solicit the favor of a copy for publication.

We take great pleasure in being the organ of communicating to you this vote, believing that the views taken by you, and the facts by which they are supported, will do much to enlighten the public mind as to the alarming nature and extent of Lotteries in this country.

Very truly,

Your Friends and Servants,
SAMUEL H. WALLEY, JR.,
JOHN A. BOLLES,
LORIN NORCROSS.

Boston, May 4, 1833.

GENTLEMEN,

I have received your solicitation for a copy of my Lecture on Lotteries for publication, and cheerfully submit it to your disposal.

Should it contribute in any degree to inform the public mind on so important a subject, and retard the progress of so alarming an evil, the object for which it was written will be effected.

Accept my sincere wishes, that the prosperity and usefulness of the Society which you represent may be continued; and believe me,

Gentlemen, truly,

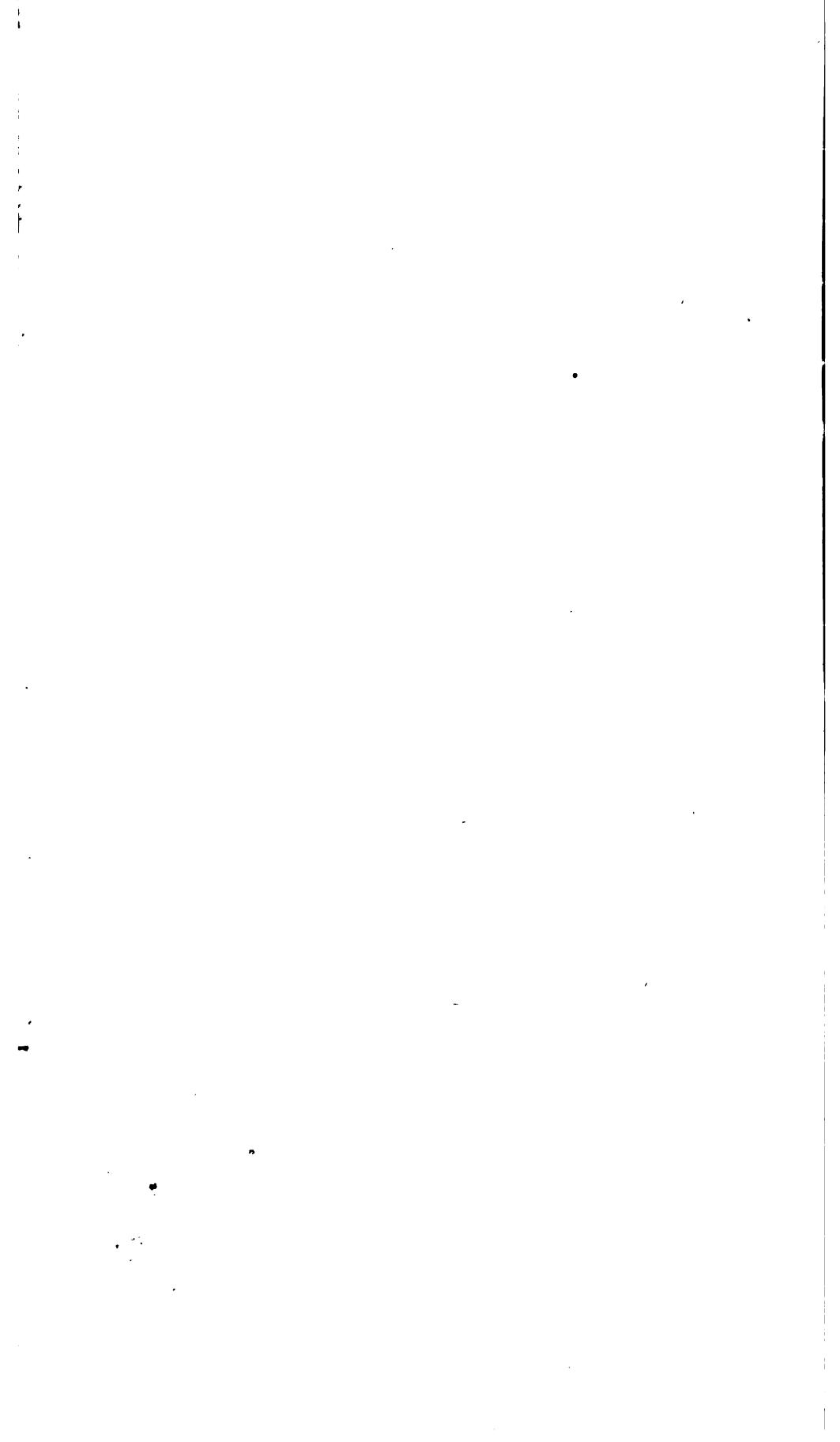
Your obedient Servant,

GEO. WM. GORDON.

Messrs. S. H. WALLEY, JR.,

JOHN A. BOLLES,

LORIN NORCROSS.



LECTURE.

THE origin of Lotteries is unquestionably ancient. They existed at an early period among the Romans. By some their origin is referred to the Roman *Congiaria*, or the distribution of gifts among the Roman soldiery by sortelage. Others, with more probability, suppose they originated from the transfer of merchandise by lot, of which method the Italian merchants made use, even in the middle ages, and of which we also find traces in Germany. As early as 1521 the council at Osnaburg is said to have established lotteries for merchandise. In France, also, under Francis I., similar lotteries for merchandise were permitted to merchants, under the inspection of government, in consideration of certain duties.

A money lottery was established at Florence in 1530. In 1571, there appears to have been a public officer in Venice, for the inspection of the lottery. From Italy, lotteries passed into France, under the name of *blanque*, because most of the tickets were blanks, about the year 1580. In 1660, lotteries were established at Paris under the patronage of government; and have existed in this manner to the present time. Of late, they have been conducted on a much larger, and more destructive scale than they have attained in any other country. At Paris, extensive lotteries are drawn twice a week; and at

Bordeaux, Brussels, Lyons and Strasburg, so often as to afford one every other day. *Twelve million* of francs are yearly produced to the French government by this species of gaming. And it has been estimated, we believe by Dupin, that at Paris, the result has been more than *one hundred* suicides annually.*

Numerical lotteries were invented by the Genoese. At the election of counsellors, the names of the candidates were cast into a vase, and then into a wheel-of-fortune, when wagers were laid upon the events of the elections; the state finally undertook the superintendence of the bank. It is said that one Benedetto Gentile first introduced this lottery in 1620; and so great was the superstition of the people in regard to it, that because the name *Gentile*, by chance, had never been drawn, the popular belief prevailed, that the devil had carried him off, together with his name, to punish him for his unlucky invention. Numbers were afterwards substituted instead of the names of eligible noblemen—and hence the lottery assumed its present form. The Genoese, also, first suggested the idea of resorting to the lottery as a measure of finance. And in their Republic they were patronized by the multitude, with an interest increasing almost to madness.

During the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, frequent lotteries were established in Holland, Germany, and various other nations of Europe. And very lately in the Austrian Monarchy, in the kingdom of Bavaria, and in the duchy of Mechlenburg, estate lotteries have been gotten up, and manufactories, the estates of noblemen, and even whole lordships, have been disposed of by lottery, under public sanction, in order to settle the debts of the owners.

Recently, also, lotteries have been combined with state loans. When the credit of the state is low, or when the rate of inter-

* The Journal des Paris, remarking upon a volume of Statistics lately published in Paris, states that the public treasury receives from lotteries, in that city alone, the enormous sum of 6,975,877 francs per annum; and on the products of gaming tables, 5,550,000 francs. The legal population of Paris is now 890,431 souls.

est is high, efforts have been made to induce capitalists to put their money into the hands of the state, by means of a lottery, which gives them the expectation of a premium above the customary interests of the country. For example:—If a government is uncertain of obtaining, or cannot obtain money at 7 per cent., it may, perhaps, effect its object by offering 4 per cent. for a loan, and dividing the remaining 3 per cent. among the lenders by means of a lottery; for the hope of winning the great prizes in the lottery, in addition to the certainty of disposing of their capital at 4 per cent. has a stronger influence on many men, than the offer of 7 per cent. interest. In this way loans have been raised in Austria, Denmark, Baden, and other states—and also in Prussia, in 1821. By this means, in Prussia, stocks to the amount of *thirty millions*, were sold at their full nominal value, which, in the market, were current only at 70 per cent.

The earliest notice of a lottery in England, occurs in the year 1567, the drawing of which took place in 1569. The next of which we have any record, was granted in 1612, by James I., for the purpose of carrying on the settlement of Virginia. The sum thus raised for the benefit of the Virginia Company, was 29,000 pounds sterling.

In 1630, Charles I. granted to a company, which undertook to supply London with water, a special license to erect a lottery. And this is the earliest notice of a lottery in the *Fœdera*, or the English *Statute Book*.

Within a year after the Restoration, Charles II. granted a lottery for the support of the Royal Fishing Company of Great Britain and Ireland. The next notice that occurs respecting them, is in the year 1695, when private ones had become extremely numerous all over the kingdom. And during the reign of William III. there was realized from lotteries in that nation about one million and a half pounds sterling per annum. The general plan of the state lotteries during the reign of Queen Ann, was to grant annuities for a fixed period, both to blanks and prizes, but at a different rate. In the year 1710, the lottery consisted of 150,000 tickets, at ten pounds

each.* The blanks were entitled to an annuity for thirty-two years, of fourteen shillings, and the prizes to an annuity for the same period of from five pounds to one thousand pounds sterling. Afterwards the allowance to blanks was discontinued, and the proportion of small prizes was greatly increased. Since 1769, instead of government annuities, the prizes have been paid in cash.

We might continue the history of lotteries up to the time they were prohibited in England, but the narrative would be a work of supererogation, and perhaps, prove uninteresting. It is sufficient to say, that scarcely since the days of Queen Ann, and the assembling of the first British Parliament, has that government passed over a single year without granting lotteries to raise enormous sums, averaging something like a million pounds sterling per annum.

Before, however, we dismiss the subject of British lotteries entirely, we wish to devote a few moments to the consideration of some of the evils attendant upon them. The attention of Parliament has several times been directed to this object. The history of its proceedings furnishes some interesting facts—only a very few of which have we time to notice.† In 1778, several laws were enacted, regulating the ticket-selling business; prohibiting all schemes of private lotteries, grafted upon the public lottery; and the number of ticket-sellers was reduced to *fifty-one* in all England, whereas, in 1777 there were 4000 in and about London. Before the passing of this act, also, 64th shares were sold at every office, and in 1777, there was one office that sold 300th shares, at one shilling each; thus opening a way for the poor to be engaged in lottery speculations. Besides these miniature lotteries with shilling tickets, there were tickets issued by publishers of ladies' pocket-books, by bakers, penny-barbers, &c. &c., promising definite sums to their customers, if certain numbers should turn out to be considerable prizes in the lottery.

* This was the first lottery for which the Bank of England received the subscriptions for government.

† Vide Note 1, Appendix.

Now, who can conceive of the misery such a state of things must bring upon society? The secret gaming-house may destroy its hundreds, while such establishments as these, under the protection of government, cannot fail to bring destruction upon thousands.

So late as 1780, assurances, and almost every other game upon lotteries, were legal; and, like all other species of gaming, proved ruinous to the public morals, and actually caused the destruction of many wealthy families.*

In 1808, there were two reports of a committee of the House of Lords on the subject of lotteries. The evidence adduced before them unfolded a dreadful scene of misery, vice, and ruin, brought on by means of the lottery system.† The appendix to these reports contains many interesting facts; a mere allusion to them, however, must suffice for the present occasion. This committee stated in their report, as their unanimous opinion, that the revenue paid into the treasury by lotteries, (and at that time it was nearly a million pounds sterling,) was less than that which would be paid on the increased consumption of excisable articles if lotteries were abolished. We have a remarkable fact on this point, from the history of Turin. Lotteries in that city were drawn periodically; and the persons who supplied that market, did not carry into it, for three or four days previous to a drawing, so large a quantity of provisions as usual; for the poor denied themselves their daily food, that they might be able to adventure in lottery speculations.

Were we permitted to continue our examination of this pernicious system, as it has existed in England, France, and other nations of Europe, the evil tendency of it would force itself upon us with such resistless and convincing power, as would compel every one to denounce it as the foster-father of all kinds of fraud, vice and corruption. But we must forbear.

There is, however, one fact connected with English lotteries that we cannot withhold: it should ever be remembered in the annals of self-destruction. A short time previous to the aboli-

* Vide Note 2, Appendix.

† Vide Note 3, Appendix.

tion of lotteries in Great Britain, a scheme was formed at London, containing several magnificent prizes of 20, 50, and even 100,000 pounds each.* The display of this scheme induced many extensive adventures, and the night following the drawing was signalized by *fifty suicides*. The last lottery granted in England was in 1824. And the last drawing took place in 1826.

The earliest notice that we find of lotteries in this country, is contained in the "Judgment of the Ministers, met at Boston, May, 1699," and published about that time. The references made to the principles and tendencies of these games of hazard are undoubtedly correct. We make the following extract :

"Not only the undertakers of a lottery, have a certain gain unto themselves, but so likewise have they, who, in the lottery, draw tickets of benefit ; and every one who ventures, does it with a desire to fall upon those tickets in drawing. It is very certain, that for this benefit, none of these can pretend that they do any one thing beneficial to human society. They only hire the undertakers to transfer the estates of others unto themselves, without any service done by them to the interest of any under heaven."

"In a lottery so contrived, that when all the prizes are drawn, they do not make up, and fetch out, near the whole sum that was deposited by the adventurers, there is a plain cheat upon the people. The undertakers in such a lottery only resolve to pillage the people of such a considerable sum, and invite a number to assist them in their actions, in hopes of going shares with them in the advantage ; and such is the corruption of mankind, that the mere hope of getting the riches of other men without the doing the service of any thing for it, will engage men to run the hazard of being losers."

A more just description of lotteries, generally, need not be drawn. The real object to be gained by them is, to obtain money without an equivalent from the great body of the people, for the undeserved benefit of the few.

* Vide Note 4, Appendix.

In directing your attention to the consideration of Lotteries as they have existed in this country, we shall attempt nothing like a detailed history of them. It is sufficient to say, that in many of the States, they have been, and still are, quite numerous—and while in Great Britain, and some other of the European Nations, they have been established for a single object, namely, the *revenue*—and the management of them confined to a single board of commissioners, or managers, they are in this country established for almost innumerable purposes—for excavating canals, forming roads, building bridges, churches, and almost every other object of a public nature, and even for purposes the most trifling. And the management of them is entrusted to as many distinct boards of managers, and oftentimes to the management of single individuals—and to individuals too, who are not at all accountable to any higher body, or answerable to any one, for the manner, honest or dishonest, in which they conduct them. In June, 1831, the Legislature of Rhode Island granted lotteries of fifty-two classes, and immediately sold them, with all their privileges, to Yates & McIntyre, and John L. Clark. Thus transferring them immediately to the entire management of individuals.*

The facts, therefore, which will form the foundation of our arguments, must necessarily be detached; but they shall not for this reason be the less worthy of your confidence.

Much effervescence of feeling has been manifested in this community on this subject, within a few months past. As friends to the poor, as lovers of morality, and as enemies of vice, should we not rejoice that public attention has been called to it? Public sentiment is the sure, and only rectifier of public evils; and we hope this subject will not be lost sight of, until lotteries are wholly prohibited throughout the United States.

Almost every crime that can be imagined has been occasioned, either directly or indirectly, through the baneful influence of lotteries. *These evils* are the more to be regretted, as they receive a sort of sanction from the government of many of the states. And whatever may be enacted to check them, they

* Yates & McIntyre are also proprietors of eight or more other lottery grants.

will always exist, in a greater or less degree, while lotteries are thus tolerated. The object of government is the happiness of the people ; and it is the duty of every government to employ all the means that can be exercised to attain this end ; but this can never be accomplished without strict and constant attention to morals, as well private as public. But lotteries, instead of producing this effect, hold out the most delusive schemes to attract the attention of the ignorant and unwary ; and draw them aside from the paths of industry and contentment, to embark in gaming speculations, which generally terminate in poverty, wretchedness, and not unfrequently self-murder.

There are individuals, however, who would fain persuade the community that lotteries do not come under the definition of *gaming*. But let us ask, where is the argument ? In what consists the difference, whether my luck be determined by the toss of a penny, the cast of a die, or by a wheel of fortune ? Each act is alike criminal. Men publicly agree to throw in certain sums of money, and then to determine by pieces of paper called *tickets*, who shall be winners. And so they also do, privately, at an ale-house, and decide their luck by cards or dice. Which is the more criminal ?

The principle upon which all gaming proceeds, and which is the root of all the misery and distress attendant upon it, is this : —The transferring of property from one to another without receiving an equivalent. The truth of this position is too evident to need illustration.

Another constituent of gaming is, the placing of property at the disposition of hazard. And in no case, actual or supposed, can it be more completely subjected to the control of chance, than in the lottery wheel. It matters not whether all the parties interested in the hazard, are actively engaged in bringing about the result. Are the gamesters upon the turf, less interested for not riding their own horses ? Every ticket-holder is a partner in the lottery game, and the managers are his deputed agents to play it.

Whatever has a tendency to create an unnatural thirst for gain, or to excite unhallowed appetites and desires, must make

men vicious, and is injurious to the public morals. This position alone is sufficient to determine the dangerous influence of lotteries. If the fatal effects of these snares of vice could be portrayed in proper colors ; if the aggregate misery and distress which they occasion could be summed up ; if the balance of loss and gain to the public were faithfully struck, the result would be viewed with amazement. The morally honest, but deluded expectant, (for this species of gaming may be his only vice,) whose last shilling is wrung from him at this hazardous game, in the moment of desperation, may be tempted to commit some crime, in order to obtain means to renew his ill luck, that may bring him to the fate and level of the lowest villain. When reason gives way to vile and ardent passions ; when the fondest expectations of hope are suddenly dashed to the earth ; when the purse becomes empty by repeated losses, and industry will not replenish it—the individual thus situated, may, without occasioning surprise, be driven to the worst extremity, and choose rather to be a knave, a suicide, than a reformed simpleton.

But while we are condemning lotteries as we do, of all kinds, even in miniature, and are affirming them to be a species of *gaming*, it is perhaps argued by an opponent, that lotteries do not depend more upon chance than many kinds of mercantile business ; and that they do not any more involve the principles of gaming, than policies of assurance, or than the transaction of mercantile and life offices. Assurances are undoubtedly matters of chance. But if they are *therefore* instances of gaming, the merchant's adventure, the physician's efforts to save the sick, and, in fact, all the affairs of life, must equally fall under the same imputation, since their final success or miscarriage, is alike unknown, before the result makes it manifest. But there is a marked difference of character between these chances. Policies of Assurance are intended to guard against loss, or to prevent distress by diffusing a loss among many persons ; while lotteries are matters of chance, intended to allure to loss by fallacious hopes of gain. Policies of Assurance hold out no allurements of gain. No man can enrich himself by lawful

assurance. Neither can one man be impoverished by the assurance of another, but on the other hand they furnish protection against poverty.

In the collection and distribution of money, lotteries and assurances are totally unlike. In the one case, the money is collected from the many, to be given to the few, without any regard to circumstances, or to the merit of those who receive it. While in the other case, it is collected from those who have property at risk, and who are perhaps, unable to take the hazard of its safety—and is distributed to those who are so *unfortunate* as to be losers.

The premiums gained by an Assurance Company, are a reward in consideration of the capital employed, and placed at risk, for the benefit of those who take out policies. While in the lottery there is no capital whatever employed; not a farthing is deposited for the benefit of the adventurers, but what is by them contributed; and yet immense profits arise for the benefit of the managers. And that such immense profits should be realized without the employment of any capital, seems irreconcilable with all the principles that regulate commercial transactions.

Besides, in the case of assurance, both parties are interested that the event should be determined in the same manner—that is, that there should be no loss; and thus all the heart-burning, envy and jealousy, which exists among ticket-holders on account of the opposition of their interests, has no place under a policy of assurance.

Nor does a policy of assurance afford a mere chance of gratification, (which is all a lottery ticket gives,) but a present substantial benefit, in that peace of mind which the security of property is calculated to afford. Nor does the advantage stop with the person assured, for the process that guaranties security to him, is beneficial to the whole community in all its relations with that individual—and hence, assurances form a main pillar in the structure of commercial integrity.

Before we attempt to lay before you the extent of Lotteries as they exist in this country, we wish to direct your attention

to the examination of a lottery scheme. The scheme is as follows:—

**NEW-YORK
CONSOLIDATED LOTTERY.**

RATES & MINTYRE, MANAGERS.

66 No. Lottery.....10 Drawn Ballots.

Wholes \$5—Halves \$2,50—Quarters 1,25.

SCHEME.

1 Prize of	\$20,000	is	\$20,000
1 Prize of	5000	is	5000
2 Prizes of	1600	are	3200
2 Prizes of	1500	are	3000
2 Prizes of	1270	are	2540
2 Prizes of	1250	are	2500
20 Prizes of	1000	are	20,000
20 Prizes of	500	are	10,000
20 Prizes of	200	are	4000
50 Prizes of	100	are	5000
56 Prizes of	50	are	2800
112 Prizes of	30	are	3360
112 Prizes of	20	are	2240
2240 Prizes of	10	are	22,400
15,400 Prizes of	5	are	77,000
18,040 Prizes	amounting to		\$183,040

27,720 *Blanks.*

45,760, *Whole number of tickets, which, at*
\$4, *Scheme price, amount to* **\$183,040,**
and, at \$5, Retail price, amount to **\$228,800.**

We have here represented by the use of common type, that portion of the scheme which is published by the managers, and distributed by the venders of tickets, and is all they intend that the public shall know in regard to the lottery. And we have represented by the use of *full face* type, the portion of the scheme that is suppressed by the managers, never contained in their advertisements, and seldom, if ever, made known by the

venders: yet it is in fact the most important part of the scheme, on which any calculation, in regard to the probable chance of the adventurer's loss or gain in the lottery, must be founded.

Perhaps the line at the head of this scheme—"66 No. Lottery....10 Drawn Ballots,"—requires some explanation to render it intelligible to every one. Formerly lotteries were made up of a series of numbers, as great as the number of tickets in each scheme; and the drawing of the lottery occupied several days, and sometimes was prolonged for weeks; it being necessary to draw every ticket from the number-wheel, (as it was called,) and the corresponding prize or blank from the prize-wheel. Several years ago, this plan of making up, and drawing the lottery, was discontinued, and the "*Combination*" or "*Ternary*" system was introduced. In this new system only a few numbers are used. The scheme before us is made up of 66 numbers, and each ticket bears upon it a *Ternary Combination*, or three numbers, as 12, 25, 40,—12, 30, 50, or 25, 50, 21, &c., the tickets being multiplied according to the number of combinations of this kind, that 66 numbers are capable of making, which is, 45,760.* A lottery of this kind may be drawn in *five minutes*, or even in less time; there being but 66 ballots, which are numbered from one upwards, placed in the wheel, and of which ten only are drawn, to determine the destination of all the prizes, and the fortune of all the adventurers. Whether this method of constructing and drawing the lottery be more susceptible of fraud and deception than that which was practised several years ago, and which was the only method ever adopted in England, we are unable satisfactorily to determine. We have been informed, however, by a credible lottery broker, that under the present system, the managers consider it safe on their part to draw any class, when but one third of the tickets are sold, which we are confident could not have been the case under the old system. The ten ballots being drawn,

* Sometimes 54 numbers only are used, and then the whole number of tickets is 24,804, and but 8 ballots are usually drawn. Sometimes, also, 60 numbers are used, and then the whole number of tickets is 34,220, and 9 ballots are usually drawn.

the distribution of the prizes is determined by the following formula of prize combinations, which is published and distributed with the scheme, before the lottery is drawn :

" That ticket having on it the 1st, 2d, and 3d drawn numbers, \$20,000
 That ticket having on it the 4th, 5th and 6th drawn numbers, 5000*
 Those two tickets having on them the 2d 3d 4th, 3d 4th 5th, each 1600
 Those two tickets having on them the 5th 6th 7th, 6th 7th 8th, each 1500
 Those two tickets having on them the 7th 8th 9th, 7th 8th 10th, each 1270
 Those two tickets having on them the 7th 9th 10th, 8th 9th 10th, each 1250

Those 20 tickets having on them the

1st 7th 10th	2d 7th 10th	3d 7th 10th	4th 7th 10th	5th 7th 10th	} 1000
1st 8th 9th	2d 8th 9th	3d 8th 9th	4th 8th 9th	5th 8th 9th	
1st 8th 10th	2d 8th 10th	3d 8th 10th	4th 8th 10th	5th 8th 10th	
1st 9th 10th	2d 9th 10th	3d 9th 10th	4th 9th 10th	5th 9th 10th	
2d 7th 10th	2d 8th 9th	2d 8th 10th	2d 9th 10th	2d 7th 10th	

Those 20 tickets having on them the

1st 6th 9th	2d 6th 9th	3d 6th 9th	4th 6th 9th	5th 6th 9th	} 500
1st 6th 10th	2d 6th 10th	3d 6th 10th	4th 6th 10th	5th 6th 10th	
1st 7th 8th	2d 7th 8th	3d 7th 8th	4th 7th 8th	5th 7th 8th	
1st 7th 9th	2d 7th 9th	3d 7th 9th	4th 7th 9th	5th 7th 9th	
2d 6th 9th	2d 6th 10th	2d 7th 8th	2d 7th 9th	2d 6th 9th	

Those 20 tickets having on them the

1st 5th 8th	1st 6th 8th	2d 6th 8th	4th 5th 10th	6th 7th 10th	} 200
1st 5th 9th	2d 5th 9th	4th 5th 7th	4th 6th 7th	6th 8th 9th	
1st 5th 10th	2d 5th 10th	4th 5th 8th	4th 6th 8th	6th 8th 10th	
1st 6th 7th	2d 6th 7th	4th 5th 9th	6th 7th 9th	6th 9th 10th	
2d 6th 8th	2d 6th 9th	2d 6th 10th	2d 7th 8th	2d 7th 9th	

All others with 3 drawn numbers on them (being 50) each 100
 Those 56 having on them the 1st and 2d drawn, each 50
 Those 112 having on them the 3d and 4th, or 5th and 6th drawn, each 30
 Those 112 having on them the 7th and 8th, or 9th and 10th drawn, 20
 All others with two of the drawn numbers on them (being 2240) each 10
 And all with one only of the drawn numbers on them (being 15400) each 5

* Of which \$75 is payable in Albany lands."

A formula, similar to the preceding, accompanies every scheme, when it is advertised ; it depends, however, upon no rule, and may be varied with each lottery, according to the pleasure of the managers.

There are in this scheme 18,040 prizes of all denominations, amounting to \$183,040. The highest prize is \$20,000, the lowest \$5. The whole number of \$5 prizes are 15,400, and the whole number of other prizes are 2640.

The whole number of tickets in this, and in all schemes in which 66 numbers are used, are 45,760, there being, besides the 18,040 prizes, 27,720 blanks. In all lotteries now existing in the United States, the prizes are subject to a discount of 15 per cent.

This scheme has not been selected, as the basis of our calculations, because it is a peculiar one, either as being of large, or small amount, or as representing lotteries in an unfavorable

light in any point of view, but it has been selected with impartiality, as a fair representation of Lottery schemes in general.

The whole number of tickets which represents the number of adventurers is 45,760; from this deduct the number of prizes (18,040) which represent the chances of gain, and the result shows, that the former are to the latter nearly in the proportion of 3 to 2. In other words, there are only two prizes to be distributed among every five ticket holders, so that three out of the five must draw blanks, and lose all their money. Thus, out of 45,760 adventurers, three fifths, or 27,720, must be losers, and their loss at \$5 each, the price of the ticket, will amount to \$138,600. With what feelings would the laborer go forth to his daily task, with the expectation of losing the wages of three days out of every five, or of \$60 out of every \$100 he might earn?

And further, if an adventurer were sure of drawing a prize, it is more probable that he would lose by it, than that he would gain, as is manifest from the following calculation: In this scheme the whole number of prizes is 18,040—and the number of five dollar prizes being 15,400, there remains but 2640 prizes of higher denomination than \$5, which is the price of each ticket. Now as the number of five dollar prizes is to the number of higher prizes in the proportion of *six* to *one*, there are *six* chances out of *seven*, that the prize would be one of \$5. From this deduct the 15 per cent. and it follows, that a \$5 prize would in fact be but \$4.25. At this rate, if the adventure be repeated one hundred times, and a prize drawn each time, the price of one ticket would be lost every seventh drawing—which would amount to \$75 out of every \$500 expended. And if we apply this principle to all the chances in the scheme, it follows, that ninety-four out of every one hundred who adventure in the lottery must be losers, in whole or in part.

But the adventurer's object is not to obtain a small prize, and thus barely save himself from loss—it is to secure a fortune. An application of the doctrine of chances, as laid down in Dr. Brewster's *Edinburgh Encyclopædia*,* to this scheme, will

* See particularly, Problem XXVII.

produce the following results, as to the probability of obtaining given prizes ; and as to the number of tickets that should be purchased to render it probable that such prizes would be secured.

The chance of drawing simply an \$100 prize in this scheme, is as *one* to 381—and should an adventurer purchase 381 tickets, paying \$5 each or \$1905 for them, it would be more probable that 264 of them would draw blanks, or be entitled only to smaller prizes, than that even *one* would draw a prize as large as \$100.

And the chance of drawing a \$500 prize, which in fact would be but \$425—15 per cent. being always deducted, would be as *one* to 915—and should a person purchase 915 tickets, paying \$4575 for them, it would be more probable that 640 of them would draw blanks, or smaller prizes, than that even *one* would draw a prize of \$500.

Or should an adventurer's attention be directed to the prize of \$1270, his chance of obtaining it would be as *one* to 5720, and should he purchase 5720 tickets with the hope of securing it, paying \$28,600 for them, it would be more probable that 3763 would draw blanks, or smaller prizes, than that even *one* would draw the prize desired.

Or should he aim at the \$1600 prize, his chance would be as *one* to 11,440—and should he purchase 11,440 tickets, paying \$57,200 for them, it would be more probable that 7526 of them would draw blanks, or smaller prizes, than that any one would draw \$1600.

And the chance of drawing the highest, or \$20,000 prize, is as *one* to 45,759. Is it not criminal to violate the principles of truth, by encouraging hope in such a scheme as this!—Reckoning the inhabitants of the United States at 13,000,000, and the number of convicts in the several penitentiaries at 3,000, in the aggregate, which is less than the actual number, and one's chance of getting into the State Prison, is more than ten times as great, as that of securing a fortune by buying a lottery ticket.

A lottery scheme has been advertised in an Ohio paper, by which it appears that the holder of a single ticket, would

have *one chance in one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight to draw a prize over fifty dollars.*

The following statement, which appeared under the signature of a broker, in a New York paper, of Sept. 29, 1818, also exposes the small probability of obtaining any of the large prizes at that time, and we have no reason to suppose that the chances have become more favorable since. The broker states: "I have been in the lottery business upwards of 23 years; and, in the course of that time, I suppose I have had upwards of thirty thousand tickets which remained unsold, drawn to me in the lotteries of this state, and never had a prize in any of them beyond one thousand dollars."

We could cite numerous instances had we time, of immense losses by speculations in lottery tickets—of losses to single individuals of 20, 40, 60 and even 70,000 dollars, causing misery and distress to families and connexions, all of which would go to substantiate the principles we have laid down. We however deem it unnecessary to multiply facts of this kind to any great extent. Yet we cannot resist our inclination to quote the following, which is undoubtedly authentic, and is contained in a pamphlet recently published in Philadelphia.* It is an account, given by a lottery vender of New York, as to the destination of prizes which were sold by him in a certain class drawn during the autumn of 1831, and of his own impoverishment by purchasing in the lottery.

" The highest prize sold by me in Class 30, was \$50			
"	"	31,	" 40
"	"	32,	" 12
"	"	11,	" 50
"	"	33,	" 300
"	"	34,	" 50
"	"	35,	" 100

"The first prize of \$50, was sold to a black man. I never saw him after.

"The second of \$40, was sold to a black man. He spent it all in tickets, and got in my debt \$2,50, which he has not paid.

* Written by J. R. Tyson, Esq.

"The third, \$12, was sold to a neighbor of mine. He took the amount in tickets, and lost the whole. He never purchased of me after that.

"The fourth, of \$300, was sold to a journeyman baker. He drew a \$1000 prize afterwards; he spent the whole \$300 prize with me, and, as I understand, he left his employment and the city much in debt.

"The fifth, of \$50, was sold to a woman who spent the whole for tickets, and more too in less than a week.

"The sixth was sold to a young gentleman of my acquaintance. He bought more tickets than the prizes came to. He afterwards drew \$1000; I presume, (in fact he told me), he had spent every cent of it in lottery tickets. I am thus particular, and I am enabled to be so, from having kept a book in which all my tickets were registered, and I have invariably taken the names of purchasers, or a description of their persons. The lottery brokers generally do so; they are a keen set of fellows, and are pretty sure not to let a person who may be so *unfortunate* as to draw a high prize, escape their clutches. It may not be amiss to state my own experience. I have within seven years, drawn the whole of \$10,000

Half of \$24,000 12,000

Half of 5,000 2,500

and minor prizes of \$1,000 and downwards, to an immense amount. I have drawn at least twenty prizes of \$1,000 each, and I am now indebted for lottery tickets over \$7,000, without the means of paying a mill; and I believe my luck has been better than that of any other man in America. I have had tickets forced upon me by the venders, to the amount of \$5,000 in a single lottery. As long as there was any chance of redeeming myself from insolvency, I was willing to take the risk, and so were they, believing in my ability to pay them."

We are indebted to the same pamphlet for the following interesting narrative. It was communicated by a respectable gentleman, connected with the institution to which it refers. The principal facts, that of the abstraction and its origin, are said to be matters of notoriety.

"The evils of lottery gaming were never, perhaps, more strongly exemplified, than in the case of that infatuated man, Clew, the porter of the Bank of the United States. This individual occupied, in the Bank, a very confidential station; and although many small sums of monies were occasionally missed, under circumstances very trying to the officers, and particularly to the Tellers, yet no suspicion had attached to Clew, so exemplary had been his general conduct. One day, the officers of the Bank, in settling their daily morning balances with the city banks, missed two notes of a thousand dollars each. * * * * In a few hours both the missing notes were presented by two lottery brokers, who, on being asked from whom they had been received, stated from Clew, the porter of the United States' Bank. To each of these brokers he was then indebted for lottery tickets more than a thousand dollars, and when thus detected there were found in his possession 426 whole tickets, 462 half tickets, 1361 quarter tickets, and 78 eighths of tickets, in various lotteries, making in all two thousand, three hundred and twenty-seven chances, which after having been all drawn and examined by order of the Bank, produced *less than twenty dollars!** Facts, afterwards disclosed, satisfied the officers of the bank, that this man had been for years led away by this worst of all species of gaming, because the most seductive and the least odious, and had constantly been defrauding the institution that confided in him, of sums of money for the purpose of carrying on his nefarious speculations.

"It is scarcely necessary to add, that his villanies met with the reward consequent upon them,—trial, conviction, imprisonment,—and that, with blasted reputation and ruined character,

* In regard to this fact, we deem it proper to remark, that it can hardly be made to appear probable, from any view of the doctrine of chances as applied to a fairly conducted lottery, that so large a number of tickets should be productive of so small an amount of prize money. The most natural presumption is, that a large portion of those tickets are such as had accumulated in the course of his lottery speculations, from which the prize tickets had been selected by the purchaser. The fact, however, goes to show the great extent to which the individual had been engaged in this species of gaming.

he yet lives, a lasting monument of the miserable effects of this pernicious system."

A man about sixty years of age, of good appearance, was convicted at Philadelphia of attempting to rob a fellow lodger. In answer to questions put to him by the Mayor, he stated that he was reduced to poverty by *gaming in lotteries*, that he had spent within the last forty years \$23,000, or more than \$500 a year, and that he had never drawn a prize of any importance.*

A strange fatuity seems to possess the minds of some individuals, in regard to this subject. An individual, who was possessed of a handsome property, was induced to continue a series of speculations in tickets, until they caused his ruin, because a single ticket he once owned bore upon it the number next in order to the one that drew the highest prize. When he failed he owed one firm, in Boston, \$3,000 for lottery tickets, and another in Hartford, Connecticut, \$500.

A clergyman, who was preaching for a small church and congregation at the south, was sent by his people to New York and New England to collect funds by subscription to build them a place of worship. At New York he collected \$600. Finding this a tardy way of accumulating money, he thought a prize in the lottery would be expedient. He therefore expended his \$600 in tickets, and impatiently waited for the day of drawing. The day arrived, but he drew no prizes of any amount. He then applied to a friend for advice, who, with a few other benevolent individuals, compassionating his situation, made up his loss—and he sent the money to his people. He afterwards collected \$300, and again repaired to the lottery office. He failed of drawing a prize, and was a second time destitute of funds. He was, however, the owner of some property, which he pledged for \$200, and being fortunate in drawing a prize of \$100, he sent the amount to his people. He then came to New England. Here he collected \$400, and then returned to New York,—and again this deluded man expended his money for tickets, but drew no prizes.

* Vide Note 5, Appendix.

After this third attempt, he could obtain no relief or sympathy from any one, and in consequence lost his character, abandoned his profession, and during the month of October, 1830, was in this city seeking some menial employment.

From folly, this individual passed on to crime, and from one grade of crime to another, till he was guilty of the grossest act that can stigmatize the character of man, and is now safely lodged in the state prison.

What seems to mark the evil of lotteries more strongly, is, that not only the unsuccessful adventurer is ruined by the failure of his speculation, but the successful speculator has equal reason to deplore his first connexion with this species of gaming.

A friend, residing in a neighboring sea-port town, has communicated to us the following facts: A young man, secretary of an assurance office, a few years ago, drew a prize of 8 or \$10,000. He continued to purchase tickets until he expended the whole sum. He then forged certificates of stock, sold them, and absconded with a female of abandoned character.

Another prize of \$15,000 was drawn by four young men of that town. One was a gold and silver smith, at the time, honest and industrious,—he has since drawn two or three large prizes, and is now a drunken vagabond. Another was a grocer, who has since failed, and says, his last advice to his children, will be, "*Never buy a lottery ticket.*"

The other two, were also grocers, remarkable for their industry and economy,—but both have since died in poverty and drunkenness.*

There is another view of this subject which may be presented to you. We have, thus far, attempted to exhibit the relative value of lottery chances, by comparing the chances of obtaining a benefit, with the chances of sustaining a loss. We will now endeavor to estimate the value of a lottery chance, by dollars and cents.

The price demanded for a lottery ticket is exorbitant, there

* Vide Note 6, Appendix.

being no due proportion between the sum asked, and the chance of gain which it offers to the purchaser. In fair dealing, no man is willing to pay more for a mere expectation of a profit than it is worth,—and the rule for determining the value of this expectation, is to multiply the benefit expected by the fraction which represents the probability of obtaining it. Thus, if \$60 be promised to a person on condition of his throwing a particular face on a die, his expectation before trial is worth \$10, since the die having *six* faces, he has one chance in *six*, or *one sixth* of a certainty of gaining the whole sum. But in applying this rule to the lottery scheme under examination, in order to determine the *precise* value of a chance for any particular prize, it would require a more minute arithmetical calculation than we have time to make ; for the chance for each particular prize is so modified by the chances of drawing a higher or a lower prize, that the value of it must be somewhat increased or diminished by the greater or less value of these ~~other~~ chances. But we may make some advances towards a true estimate by supposing, in each case, that there are no prizes of any other denomination than the one, the expectation of gaining which is the subject of calculation. Under this view, and deducting fifteen per cent. from all prizes, we arrive at the following results : The

Chance for a \$50 prize being 1 to	817,	is worth	5 3-16 cts.
“ 100 “ 1 to	915,	“	9 5-16 “
“ 200 “ 1 to	2288,	“	7 7-16 “
“ 1,250 “ 1 to	22880,	“	4 5-8 “
“ 1,600 “ 1 to	22880,	“	5 15-16 “
“ 5,000 “ 1 to	45759,	“	9 5-16 “
“ 20,000 “ 1 to	45759,	“	37 1-2 “

In each case in this estimate the worth of the chance is the price, which, upon a fair calculation, a person ought to pay for a ticket ; by which it will be perceived that a lottery office is a dear market for fortunate chances. If these calculations were applied to every chance in the scheme, the addition of their value would show that the buyer of tickets gets for each dollar expended but sixty cents' worth of chance.

This same result may be obtained by a different method of calculation. The scheme price of tickets in this lottery is \$4; for, if we multiply the whole number of tickets by 4, the product is equal to the whole amount of the prizes; yet the vender's price is \$5—this extra dollar being an addition of 25 per cent. to the scheme price, which constitutes the vender's profit, and then 15 per cent. is deducted from all prizes, which shows that 40 per cent. more is paid for each ticket than the chance of its drawing any prize is worth.*

In the New York Journal of Commerce, of the 1st inst. (March, 1833,) we find the following editorial paragraph, which shows that extravagant profits are realized by the brokers, as well as the exceeding small chance that ticket-holders possess of obtaining prizes: "A Philadelphia lottery dealer stated to a friend of ours, a few days ago, that he had now been in the business for nine months, during which time neither the tickets which he sold, or which he had remaining on hand, drew a single prize. Yet his sales were so extensive, that the profits were sufficient to pay his losses on the tickets left on hand, and support his family."

But, however disastrous lottery adventures may be made to appear, there is doubtless a certain class of ticket buyers, who advance upon this imaginary "*road to wealth*" under stimulus of the consolation, that if they get nothing for their tickets, the money they pay for them will go to a good object—to excavate a canal—support a college—or to the advantage of some such public establishment.

However honest we may esteem these excuses of lottery adventurers, is it at all questionable, whether the amount of evil, resulting from their course, overbalances the amount of good? Are not their excuses founded upon the principle that public aggrandizement is preferable to public and private virtue—and alike inconsistent with the precepts of morality, which enjoin upon us not to do evil that good may come—and with the dictates of sound public policy, which always prefers the good of the majority to that of the minority?

* Vide Note 7, Appendix.

On attempting an examination of the lottery system, as a means of collecting funds for an object of public utility, and with a view of ascertaining the comparative good and evil resulting from it, we are met, in the onset, by a thousand precedents, in the records of the wise and good, in other ages and other countries, as well as in our own. We are told, that England, the acknowledged mother of American policy, resorted to lotteries as a measure of finance, year after year, for more than a century; that they have been established for this purpose in almost all the nations of Europe, and are supported in many of them at the present day. But to the person who advocates lotteries in this country, of what value are all these examples? There is a broad distinction between our government and the governments of the old world—wide as the ocean that laves their shores and ours, and not to be overlooked until we are blind to our best and highest interests—not to be passed until we are ripe for ruin. This distinction is, that their governments legislate for *power*—and its chief source, money. Our government legislates for *good*. They are distinct from the people, and divided from them by a permanent difference of rank and right—and the revenues they get from the people serve chiefly, in these days, to sustain this distinction—and therefore they say to vice and folly, thus far shall you come, and thus much money shall you bring with you—that man, we will permit, and induce to be guilty of this sin, or of that imprudence, because he must thereby put so much money into our treasury. But, let it never be forgotten, that a similar law, carrying into effect the same principles, sanctions for a price, brothels, gaming-houses, and all kinds of vice, as well as lotteries. The government of France, which had in existence at one time, according to the estimations of Dupin, lotteries to the amount of fifty millions of francs per annum, also grants licenses to gaming-houses, from which it realizes ten millions of francs per annum, in the single city of Paris; and these ten millions of francs are used by that government for the support of the clergy.

But again, it is asked, Were not the lawgivers and legislators of former days as wise, and the men of earlier ages as moral,

as virtuous, and as religious, as they are now? And have not former legislatures in this country granted lotteries, and our most worthy citizens acted as managers? The truth of this must be admitted. Congress, in 1776, granted a lottery to raise money to the amount of a million and a half dollars, to carry on the war that secured our independence. The Legislature of this Commonwealth has, in days passed, granted lotteries to raise money for canals, to Williams' College, to Harvard College, and to many purposes of education; and other legislatures have granted them for building churches. And such men, too, as our late Governor Brooks, and Lt. Governor Phillips, have been concerned as managers. But all this only proves, that the public attention had not been called to the subject, by a discussion of its tendency and effect; and the change that has taken place in the public mind, since its evils have been discussed by various legislatures, is, perhaps, as rapid as have ever occurred in regard to a long established practice. Contemplate the slave trade. Century after century rolled away, before a question was raised in regard to the lawfulness of that traffic. The slave traders invoked the blessings of Heaven upon their enterprize; and, when returning from their depredations upon the shores of Africa, thanked God for that mercy which had protected them from harm, and blessed their undertaking. And these men were, no doubt, oftentimes sincere, and perhaps pious. Even in Great Britain, where slavery is now unknown, it was not until after an arduous struggle of twenty years' duration, that Parliament could be persuaded to abolish it. And shall lotteries be sanctioned in this age, because other ages have done so? Will this community support an error, nay, a demoralizing evil, because other nations have, or because other communities in our own nation continue to do so? We trust not.

A comparison like the above, might be drawn between this subject and intemperance. And when we consider the immense evil of that practice, how slow and tardy seems the movement of reform? Yet it is manly and firm. May the march of reform be the same in this cause, and not be marked alternately, by the erratic frenzy of excitement, or the callousness of cold indifference.

Some there are, however, who would advocate a law for taxing lotteries, or selling licenses to the venders of tickets. When a penal law is passed, the penalty is, or should be, in proportion to the offence. But on this subject we are not to inquire as to the measure of the evil. The bare question is, have lotteries a good, or a bad tendency? and not how good, or how bad? That principle in human nature, which leads us to love chance better than certainties—to forget principles for exceptions—to rely on a possible accident for good, rather than on a lesser good, which our own efforts may make certain, is a principle fertile of evil; and it is wise to strive, in all cases, to suppress and weaken it, and to eradicate every thing that has a tendency to give it new force, and development. We do not say, it is as bad, or as foolish, to buy a lottery ticket as it is to steal—or so bad to steal as to commit murder;—but they are all on the same side of the line—they are all bad, and have no good mingled with them. And shall we, because we cannot, by law, entirely prohibit them, hold a compromise with any one of them? Because we cannot wholly extirpate murder, theft, and many other vices, will any one be absurd enough to say that, for *this* reason, we should compromise with them, and fix a price upon them?

The power of law-making always gives existence to the power of character-making—they are one and the same thing. We know that legislators have stubborn evils to contend with, and evils, too, of a milder nature. Most things that require legislative enactments to direct them, are, in some measure, evil in themselves, and their consequences—and some evils need only the restrictions of regulation, or the restraint of reproof. But the subject matter before us now, is wholly evil—for whatever be the measure of evil, it is devoid of all good. And has this community, or has this republic, advanced so far in the road to corruption, as to be willing to recognize in its code of laws the worst, the most polluted and polluting principles of European legislation?

But to show more definitely the effect of lotteries as a public measure, let us resort again to calculations founded upon the scheme before us. In the first place, the only chance of ben-

efit which the public derive from this scheme, is in the reservation of the 15 per cent. on the amount of prizes. This per centage on \$183,040 would be \$27,456—but before this sum is paid to the public, there must be a deduction from it, for the compensation of the managers, expenses of printing, stationery, drawing the lottery, &c., which together cannot but amount to a fifth part, or 20 per cent. of the reservation.* And this 20 per cent. being deducted, there will remain but 21,965 dollars. This, we believe, is all the benefit which falls to the share of the public from this lottery, even if we suppose everything conducted with strict honesty.

On the other hand, in order to raise the sum of 21,965 dollars, there must be a contribution by the ticket holders, of 183,040 dollars. So that to gain the benefit offered by this scheme, a tax must be laid of more than eight times its value. And this is not all—45,760 tickets, at four dollars each, (that being the scheme price) will produce the whole sum to be distributed—whereas the price of the tickets, at the lottery office, is five dollars, being an advance of 25 per cent. on the scheme price, or one dollar per ticket, which amounts to 45,760 dollars more. This sum, added to 183,040 dollars, makes 228,800 dollars, which is to be paid by the purchasers. Thus we see that a tax, not of eight times only, but of more than ten times the value of the benefit expected, must be laid upon a certain part of the community ;—that is, to gain a commodity of a given value, more than ten times the worth of it must be paid.

The enormous sum thus raised, is distributed in the following manner :

To the brokers,	\$45,760
To the managers, for salary, expenses, &c.,	5,491
To 2-5ths of the adventurers,	155,584
To the benefit of the object,	21,965

* On reference to the report of a committee of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, to examine into the concerns of the Plymouth Beach Lottery, in 1821, it will be found that 20 per cent. of the reservation is much less than was appropriated to expenses in conducting that lottery. See Note 8, Appendix.

How would the people of this state receive a law, assessing upon them a tax of 229,800 dollars, under color of promoting a work of public utility, 51,251 dollars of which should be given to certain individuals for collecting it, 155,584 dollars should be lavished among the favorites of government, and only 21,965 dollars should be appropriated to the work for which the tax was laid? It would cause *nullification* even in the North. And yet some of our states are acting the same thing over and over again, every year, under the name of a lottery.

The Legislature of Maine raised by her two lotteries, during the year 1831, \$5,524 24, which sum was paid into her treasury. But the same year she paid out of her treasury, for expenses incurred in conducting her lotteries, \$5,210 03—leaving a net balance in her treasury from this source, of only \$14 21.* And, to secure this sum of \$14 21, she must have collected from her inhabitants, and the inhabitants of other states, the enormous sum of \$60,000.

A lottery was once granted in Vermont to a company, who undertook to build a certain road. This company drew two classes of the lottery—but finding it a ruinous business, afterwards sold it for twenty dollars. The purchaser came to Boston, and resold it for \$500 to the lottery brokers, who subsequently sold and drew all the classes, for their own special benefit—thus taxing the community nearly \$40,000, without any advantage at all accruing to the object for which the lottery was granted.

A grant for a lottery was made to the town of Plymouth, called the Plymouth Beach Lottery, in 1812, by the Legislature of this state. Eleven classes of this lottery were drawn during the nine subsequent years, amounting to \$886,439 75. This enormous sum was distributed in the following manner: \$594,571 11 was paid out in cash for prizes. The managers received for commissions, &c. \$37,543 29—and the venders received (besides the advance above the scheme price) \$16,360 95—for clerk hire, printing, postages, bad debts, &c., \$27,812 25—and there was paid to the town of Plymouth, to

* American Almanac, 1833.

be expended in repairing the Plymouth Beach, only \$9,876 15. Thus were the purchasers of tickets taxed by this lottery nearly a million of dollars, while only about one per cent. was appropriated to the object for which the lottery was granted.*

It seems not to be generally understood that a lottery is a tax upon the people to the full amount of all the tickets sold. But such is the fact. If \$15,000 is to be raised by lottery, the people must be taxed \$125,000. This is the proportion. And when the Legislature of a state passes a bill to raise \$200,000 by a lottery, they virtually vote to tax the people \$1,666,666 67. For they not only collect from the people the \$200,000, but beside this amount, they must collect over a million to pay off the prizes, and over \$300,000 for the benefit of the ticket-sellers. It does not alter the case at all, that the larger part of the money is paid out again in prizes. The money is not distributed among the ticket-holders. It is taken from the many, and given to the few; and it is given without any regard to the merit of the persons who receive it. And this enormous sum is collected, not from the wealthy, who are able to pay it; nor from the intelligent and prudent, who will be able to retrieve the loss. Such persons are not adventurers in a lottery. But it is levied upon the poor, the ignorant, the credulous, and the desperate. They are the persons who buy lottery tickets.

Men are justly jealous of every distinction that does not arise from personal merit,—from the virtue, industry, or talents of the person who enjoys it. But a lottery confounds all these distinctions. Establish a lottery, and you will have emissaries in every part of the country, receiving the pittance of the poor and the ignorant, that the whole collected stream may be poured into the lap of one, and that one perhaps the least worthy of all who had adventured in the scheme. Many are to be made poorer, that one may become rich. This is hostile to the spirit of our institutions—it is immoral, anti-social, and fundamentally wrong.

We dislike dealing in personalities. It is an unpleasant task.

* Vide Note 8, Appendix.

And the principle of condemning a whole class of individuals, for the errors of a few of its members, is one with which we are at variance. It is as ungenerous as the other seems invidious. But it is incumbent upon us, on this occasion, to expose, so far as we are able, some of the frauds practised by ticket-dealers. Among them there *may* be honorable men. But the whole system of lotteries is, to so great a degree, a system of deception, involving all the principles of gaming, that it seems almost an anomaly that a person should be long engaged in the ticket-selling business, and yet continue an honest man. We rejoice, however, if there be exceptions.

Hitherto, in all that has been said in regard to lotteries, we have supposed that every thing in the conduct of them was perfectly fair. But is it so? What opportunity is there for fraud, or collusion, on the part of the ticket venders? It is certainly true that there may be fraud in every business; but it is as true that, if lotteries hold out uncommon facilities and temptations for collusion, and uncommon opportunities for escaping detection, they should be abandoned by every man who has a regard for morality. This is a point important to be ascertained. Is it probable that many who adventure upon lotteries, ascertain by any calculation, or know from any source, whether, by this *Ternary Combination*, as it is called, more than 45,760 tickets may not be made out of 66 numbers? And if more may be made, or are made, the value of every ticket is lessened, just in proportion as the number of tickets is increased. And if there may be twice as many tickets made as are expressed in the scheme, is it not apparent that one half, or more, of the prizes, may be never drawn? Is it not a suspicious circumstance, that the schemes, as published by the managers, do not state the number of tickets, nor the rate at which they must be valued, in order to make up the amount of prize money? And if a vender were to sell a ticket bearing a number not contained in the lottery, how is the fraud to be detected? In point of fact, artifices of this kind have been practised. A man in the state of New York sold nineteen eighths of a ticket, which, unfortunately for him, drew a prize of \$400; whereupon, not wish-

ing to pay all the eighths, he prudently decamped.* Now there were not, probably, two chances in twenty that the fraud of this man would have been detected; for if the ticket had drawn a small prize, \$10, for instance, he might, from his lucrative business, have paid the money, and regarded the transaction as merely a bad speculation. If the prize had been one of \$5, as might have been most reasonably anticipated, he would have been a gainer by his knavery.† Tickets likewise have been sold in lotteries for which there was no grant. Holders of prize tickets have been defrauded of their prize money, and made to believe that they had drawn blanks. Selling tickets also after the drawing had taken place, knowing them to be blanks—and an endless variety of other petty frauds, might be noticed. And the danger of detection is so slight, as to give persons of easy conscience, opportunities to defraud, too great to be resisted.

From a great number of facts, we will quote the following:

An advertisement of this kind appeared in some of the Connecticut papers, in 1828. "The Vermont Lottery, Class No. 2, for 1828, is to be drawn on the 17th inst.,—the profits devoted to religious purposes." For such a lottery as this there never was any grant.‡

A spurious scheme of a lottery, called "The Green Mountain Lottery of Vermont," was drawn during the month of July, 1830, in Vermont, near the New York line, privately at a tavern, by two strangers. No grant for any such lottery was in force. The two men who drew the lottery were afterwards arrested, and confined, for a term, in Bennington County Jail. A printed statement that the drawing took place at Arling-

* Mr. Cromelein, Hudson, N. Y.

† The amount of the prize being the same as the price of the ticket, he would have gained the reservation of fifteen per cent.

‡ Some time during the autumn of 1828, a person, pretending to be a manager in the "Vermont State Lottery," arrived at a village in Vermont in the evening, drew a lottery the next morning about sunrise, and then immediately commenced his journey back towards Boston. Of the prizes in this lottery we understand there never was any account published by the managers or brokers.

ton, was made up and published in the city of New York, with names annexed as witnesses—not one of whom, the inhabitants of Arlington certify, are known to them. They also certify that no such drawing publicly took place.*

A ticket, not long since, was presented to a broker in Boston, who said it was entitled to a prize of \$2, and accordingly paid to the holder of it that sum, 15 per cent. less, and took the ticket. It was afterwards ascertained that the ticket was actually entitled to a prize of \$200. The broker was again applied to, but he denied ever selling, or ever having seen, any such ticket.

In regard to the fact of lotteries having been made in the city of Boston, there can be little doubt. Besides the circulation of schemes, bearing upon their faces marks of being spurious, we have this fact among others: An individual told us, within a few days, that having occasion to call at a lottery office, to ascertain what a ticket had drawn, he was answered by the broker that he could not inform him, but if he would call in, at a certain other office, he could ascertain, "for the lottery was made there."

A few years ago, a bundle of tickets, purporting to be in the "Massachusetts State Lottery," was sent to a trader in the country, by a Boston Broker, with instructions to sell them, and account for the proceeds. Every one knows that no such lottery has existed in this state. And, moreover, we are credibly informed, that the drawing of this lottery was so conducted, that the manager, with his unsold tickets, obtained all the prizes of any considerable amount.†

To ascertain the precise amount of lottery transactions, that take place within a given time in this country, is obviously impracticable, by any means that can be supposed to be in our possession. In regard to this Commonwealth, it is altogether an illicit trade, consequently we have no public data on which to found a calculation. But from information obtained inciden-

* Vide Note 9, Appendix.

† Vide Note 10, Appendix.

tally, during an official investigation by a public notary, it cannot be doubted that the yearly traffic in lottery tickets in the city of Boston alone, amounts to more than a million of dollars.* Assuming this sum to be the exact amount, and granting that all the tickets sold are genuine, if we allow 25 per cent. as the brokers' commission, it shows that this business yields to the ticket-sellers a profit of \$250,000 to be divided among them yearly. The number of ticket-sellers in Boston is probably about *fifty*; if this be correct, this sum of \$250,000 will give to each an income of \$5000 per annum. From observation and other good authority, we are persuaded, that a number of itinerant venders daily traverse the city in every direction—visiting taverns, bar-rooms, cellars, and other places of resort—and not unfrequently, places of business, and domestic abodes. Indeed, we are informed, that this business is so systematically arranged, that the city is divided into districts, and one or more persons appointed to each district, to board vessels on their arrival, visit places above referred to, and otherwise vend these precursors of misery and ruin.

In regard to the extent of this traffic throughout the Union, we might spread out before you a mass of information, that would, we are sure, be viewed with amazement. We have time, however, only to make a few statements in a condensed form.

According to a presentment made by the Grand Jury of the city and county of New York, November 12, 1830, we find that the number of lotteries drawn in that city, during the year previous, was 52—with 1,857,000 tickets, amounting, at the scheme price, to *nine million two hundred and seventy thousand dollars*.†

But to ascertain, as near as may be, the amount of tickets sold in various states, the best data, that can be easily obtained, are furnished by the number of schemes drawn in a year in each

* See report of a committee of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts on lotteries, February, 1833.

† Vide Note 11, Appendix.

state, and the value of them. We presume the following statement may be relied upon as very nearly correct, in regard to the lotteries authorised by the following states, in 1832 :

States authorising Lotteries.	No. of Classes.	Amount of Tickets at Scheme Price.
New York	80	\$14,387,801
Virginia	71	10,920,166
Connecticut	88	8,332,583
Rhode Island*	68	7,837,621
Pennsylvania	26	5,313,056
Delaware & N. Carolina, (joint grants)	37	3,462,900
Maryland	18	2,212,540
Delaware	32	670,263

Aggregate in 9 states† , 420 \$53,136,930

Besides these states, Maine has two lotteries, and several of the southern states are known to have lotteries, but the number and amount of their classes is not ascertained.† To these 53 millions there must be an addition of 25 per cent. for the brokers' commissions, for the estimate is at the scheme price, which will increase the amount to \$66,420,162. An amount nearly three times equal to the whole yearly revenue of our national government, and exceeding five times the amount of the annual expenditures of the government, if we exclude the amount appropriated for the liquidation of the public debt. And yet this enormous sum is freely paid by the deluded adventurers, while the collection of our tariff duties, paltry in comparison, shakes the foundations of the Union, and threatens its dissolution.

By this statement, it will be perceived, that in these nine

* The Legislature of Rhode Island, at its present session, (June, 1833,) also granted a lottery (of 52 classes) to an Artillery Company at Newport, by which the community will be taxed several millions.

† Vide Note 12, Appendix.

‡ The state of Louisiana has a lottery in existence called the "*French Evangelical Church Lottery*."

not only about 1/2 of the
and selling of the
period

states there are three lotteries drawn every two days. And it is also obvious from this statement, if we allow that all the tickets are sold, and all the prizes honestly paid—that the ticket-buyers, as a body, pay more per annum for tickets, than is afterwards distributed in the shape of prizes, by considerably more than 21 millions of dollars.

To say nothing of the folly of gaming in general, of the distress which it invariably occasions, and of the immorality which it fosters—the madness of lottery-gaming in particular, must be apparent. It is the most expensive of all games of hazard. The chances of gain are immensely against the adventurer. The more tickets he adventures upon, the more likely is he to lose. If he adventure upon all the tickets of a lottery, he will lose of a certainty—and the greater the number of his tickets, the nearer he approaches to this certainty.

Besides, the purchasers of lottery tickets are, for the most part, those who earn their living by hard labor, and who can ill afford to risk their dollars against an illusory prospect of thousands. The more intelligent part of the community understand the quackery, and the falsity of the promises displayed on the many colored lures, which are posted about the lottery shops, that cluster so thickly in some of our cities, and that have been too easily found in our own city, to be deceived by them. But they deceive the ignorant, and the dreamy visionary. And when it is borne in mind, that these immense sums are drawn from the pockets of the laboring and poorer classes, the inequality and enormous amount of the evil, becomes apparent. If we allow that the purchasers of tickets earn, on an average, one dollar a day, it follows, that among the more indigent classes, the amount of labor annually worse than thrown away, in these nine states referred to, is equivalent to sixty-six millions of days' work, or the wages of more than two hundred thousand years.

There seems to be a strange infatuation pervading mankind, in regard to their own good fortune. The chance of gain, by every man, is more or less over-valued—while on the other

hand, the chance of loss is by most men undervalued. Man is prone to be led astray by the assurances of false hopes. Possibilities are relied on for certainties ; improbable adventures are devised, and with confidence pursued. Instead of toiling with firm and cautious steps, along the rough and narrow path that leads to competence and affluence, the minds of many delight in the painted vales of imagination—and all intellectual activity is exercised in winding through the labyrinths of fallacy. From the mere hope of enjoying affluence by methods more compendious than those of labor, proceeds the common inclination to experiment and hazard—and that willingness to snatch all opportunities of growing rich by chance. It is to gratify such feelings as these, that lottery adventurers hasten on to break over all the restraints of principle, character, and affection. If they draw blanks, their defeated expectations only urge them on to another trial, which it is hoped may be more successful—but which, also, leads to disappointment, and that again to another, until property, character and peace are all lost. The lottery speculator, like Tantalus, stands in a lake of expectation that is sure to disappoint his thirst, or in the midst of imaginary treasures that are sure to elude his grasp.

Or, if he draw a prize occasionally, the evil is perhaps still greater. Through a desire of more of these unholy gains, he spends in tickets the money received from former prizes, and when blank after blank exhausts the whole, he lays his greedy hands on whatever comes in his way, deaf to honor, to principle and affection, and uttering only the incessant cry, "Give, give."

One might suppose that repeated disappointment would induce adventurers to see the folly of their course—but a large prize dazzles the eyes of the credulous, and fires the cupidity of him who is so fortunate as to draw it. If you say, that to-day he is a fortunate man, and uses what may be called his "*good luck*" prudently—wait until you see the end—unless past experience miserably deceives, at last this very success, "bites like a serpent, and stings like an adder."

There are no human minds sufficiently firm to be trusted in the hands of chance. Adventurous persons who throw themselves by design into the arms of fortune, may be said to quit voluntarily the power of governing themselves. They engage in a course of life about which nothing can be ascertained by previous investigations. And it is no wonder that their lives are passed between elation and despondency—hope and disappointment—desire and misery. The grief of the casual adventurer must always be proportionate to his hope. The mere gift of luck should always be considered beneath the care of a wise man.

APPENDIX.

NOTE 1. PAGE 8.

In the year 1723, the resentment of the Commons of Great Britain, was highly excited by a scheme of a lottery, to be drawn at Harburgh, in the King's German dominions. The House appointed a committee to enquire into this, and other lotteries at that time on foot in London. This scheme was published on pretence of raising a subscription for maintaining a trade between Great Britain and the King's territories on the Elbe. But, says the historian, it was a mysterious scene of iniquity, which the committee, with all their penetration, could not fully discover. They reported, however, that it was an infamous, fraudulent undertaking, whereby many unwary persons had been drawn in, to their great loss; that the manner of carrying it on had been a manifest violation of the laws of the kingdom; that the managers and agents of this lottery, had, without authority for so doing, made use of His Majesty's Royal name, thereby to give countenance to the infamous project, and induce his majesty's subjects to engage, or be concerned therein. A bill was brought in to suppress this lottery, and to oblige the managers of it to make restitution of the money they had received from the contributors. At the same time the House resolved, that (John) lord viscount Barrington had been notoriously guilty of promoting, abetting, and carrying on that fraudulent undertaking; for which he should be expelled the House.

In 1754, frauds were practised under the lottery act, by certain individuals entrusted with the care of vending tickets, so extensively as to cause a deficiency in the revenue, and actually to injure the public credit. The fraudulent practices were so flagrant and notorious as to attract the attention of Parliament, when an enquiry was commenced, and prosecuted, in opposition to a scandalous cabal, who endeavored with equal eagerness and perseverance to screen the delinquents. A committee, however, appointed to examine particulars, agreed to several severe resolutions against one Le—, who had amassed a large fortune by this and other kinds of speculations. They voted him guilty of breach of trust, and a direct

violation of the lottery act. He was afterwards prosecuted by the Attorney General in the court of King's bench ; but so extensively was the public engaged in lottery speculations, and so great was the excitement got up in his favor by those directly or indirectly concerned with him, that he was discharged on paying a fine of one thousand pounds, for having committed frauds by which he gained forty times that sum.—(*Hume and Smollett's History of England.*)

NOTE 2. PAGE 9.

In the year 1787, assurances were made punishable by an act of Parliament. An act, passed in 1793, also contained several clauses against them. Prior to that period, any person who would pay for a seat in Cowper's Hall, the place where the lottery was drawn, could obtain all the facilities necessary to conduct assurances in the most advantageous manner. At this time the business was carried on to an alarming extent, and assurances were made almost every hour. Some of the assurers employed twenty or thirty agents, during the forty two days that each lottery continued drawing, who visited cellars, the bars of coffee-houses, and other places of resort, particularly those most frequented by the lower classes. The plan was to receive a small sum, for which a larger was to be returned, if any given number should be drawn a prize or blank. Any sum might be assured from one to twenty guineas ; the price of assurance for a guinea, at the commencement of the drawing, was 8d., and it gradually increased as the drawing proceeded.

NOTE 3. PAGE 9.

The many serious evils which were known to exist relating to lotteries, gave rise, in 1808, to a Committee of the House of Commons, which was appointed to inquire,—“How far the evils attending lotteries had been remedied by the laws passed respecting the same.” In the report of this committee various instances were adduced of the most serious evils, attested by the most respectable witnesses, some of which are so striking that we think the introduction of them here will need no apology. One case, which was attested by a Mr. Gurney, is particularly interesting, as it shows to what an amazing extent this kind of gaming will carry persons, who, had it not been for the temptations held out by lotteries, might have

lived with comfort and respectability, but who, from these kinds of speculations have been reduced to the most abject poverty and distress.

"I knew," says Mr. Gurney, "a widow in a good line of business, as a silk dyer, which, I suppose, brought her in about £400 a year clear. She kept a very good house, and I was in habits of intimacy with the family. The foreman she had was in the habit of assuring in the lottery; he was led astray by an acquaintance, and he and his mistress assured to the amount of from £300 to £400 on a night, although the foreman had only £30 a year, wages. It appeared on his decease, he had assured immense sums of money within the last year of his life. I found that he had expended upwards of 100 guineas in the lottery, purchasing one ticket at £16, and assuring away the rest. The ticket came up a blank at last, and I verily believe the disappointment was the cause of his death. He died insolvent, and I acted as his executor, and paid three or four shillings in the pound to his creditors. He had received a great many bills for his mistress, which he had never accounted for, and was the ruin of her also; she was not able to divide three shillings in the pound. She was obliged to go to an alms-house, and died there in four or five months. They would pawn all the plate she possessed to raise money to carry on an assurance, which had begun perhaps at a low rate. The gentleman who enticed the foreman into this practice, was himself also ruined by it. His wife had an annuity of £400 per annum, settled upon her; he sold her life interest, and she was obliged to live afterwards upon charity, while her husband, who had formerly kept his carriage, and lived in a good house in Queen-Square, spent the last hours of his miserable existence within the walls of the Fleet prison."

Mr. Gurney also relates another very remarkably case. "The man was a coachman. The family consisted of the man, his wife, and an orphan child. They each of them drew one sixteenth of a £20,000 prize, the coachman, his wife, and the child. From that time the man became a noted gambler in the lottery. He became deranged and was always raving about the lottery. His wife's anxiety and distress of mind occasioned her death. I attended her in her last moments. I have known several instances in which I have given money to relieve the distresses of persons gaming in the lottery, which has been taken from them immediately at my own door. To one woman I gave five shillings to buy bread with for herself and her children. I gave it as a treasurer to a benevolent society. Her husband took it away, and went to one of those collectors of assurances and laid it out, and they were obliged to go to the overseer of the poor to get relief that night, otherwise they would have been starved. There is another instance of a young woman now at Botany Bay. She had assured three numbers, which she had dreamed about, and she procured money by improper means, which led her to her fate."

William Hale, a silk-manufacturer, and treasurer of the poor rates, gives it as his opinion, very emphatically expressed, that nothing is so pernicious to the laboring poor as the lottery—that it is the prolific parent of disorders and crimes—that no other mode of gaming would be so baneful—

and that its evils are inherent and altogether irremediable. "If," he says, "I might give my opinion of the ill effects of the lottery, of the influence it has in corrupting the people,—and if I might form that opinion from the appearances in Spital-fields, I should be led to conclude, that there is no circumstance which conduces so much as the lottery to make the lower order of the people *bad husbands, bad wives, bad children, and bad servants*. I know no one thing which has been productive of so many evils and so many *suicides* as the lottery."

Brownlow Ford, the ordinary of Newgate, who had filled that station for the period of ten years, deposed, that the lottery was the author of great poverty and distress—that it was the acknowledged origin of much crime—and that it was the occasion of bringing many persons to the gallows. He says, "When I have put the question to malefactors, 'What first drove you to crime?' the answer has been, '*It was poverty from buying and assuring in the lottery.*'"

The evidence of Hector Essex, a pawnbroker, who had been in the business twenty-five years, is pregnant with proofs of the wonderful infatuation of persons engaged either in the purchase of tickets, or their assurance, by pawning plate, linen, beds, and the common necessities of life to obtain money, which was ventured and lost. He speaks of women as being most captivated by the allurements of the game, and alleges that discord and bankruptcy, the distress and dispersion of families, always marched in its train. One instance is given of a female, who, though always unsuccessful, persevered until her husband was ruined. When informed of the fact, he drowned himself in a fit of despair.

Various other instances of the same kind are mentioned in the appendix to the Report of the Committee, where the parties, formerly in respectable circumstances, were reduced to misery and distress. Robert Baker, Esq. deposed that, "he remembered one very strong instance of distress arising from a transaction in the lottery. It was the case of a journeyman, who belonged to a club, which club purchased a ticket that came up a great prize. The share of the man was £100, or thereabouts; he had been an industrious working man before, and he was persuaded by his friends to invest the money in the stocks, in the joint name of himself and wife, in order to prevent his making away with it. He did so, but soon got into habits of idleness after he was possessed of the money; and he wanted his wife to join in the transfer of it. This occasioned quarrels, which proceeded to assaults; he changed his habits of industry to those of drunkenness and idleness; his domestic comforts were destroyed, and he was the ruin of his family."

Many other cases of a similar description are given; in some of them mothers have neglected their children, and left them destitute of the common necessities of life, while the money by which those necessities should have been purchased has been gambled away in the lottery. In other cases the wife has robbed an industrious and careful husband and father of the small and hard earned savings of many months, and even of many years; who, instead of finding his little treasure in the drawer,

in which it was deposited and which he was about to increase by another small addition, found that the whole had been gambled away in lottery speculations, and every article of his clothes, which were not likely to be immediately wanted, had been pawned in order to recover the former loss. In other cases children have robbed their parents; servants their masters; suicides have been committed, and almost every crime that can be imagined has been occasioned by lotteries.

The Committee, before which the above mentioned facts were disclosed, were fully aware of all the evils recounted, and in the course of their report declared, that, "the foundation of the lottery system is so radically vicious, that your committee feel convinced that under no system of regulations which can be devised, will it be possible for Parliament to adopt it as an efficacious source of revenue, and at the same time divest it of all the evils of which it has hitherto proved so baneful a source."

With regard to the advantage which the revenue derives from the lottery system, the following may likewise be collected from the reported account above alluded to. Mr. Shewell informed the committee that the general advance put upon tickets by the contractor was about £3 per ticket. This is in consideration of the certain loss on such tickets as the contractor is not able to sell; the expense he must necessarily be put to in the sale of the lottery, and the profit he may naturally expect on such a concern. The lottery is considered to be well disposed of in which four fifths of the tickets are sold. The contractors of the lottery in hand, at the time of this enquiry, expected not to sell more than 17,000 tickets out of the 25,000 of which it consisted. The tickets in this lottery were sold by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at £17 and a fraction, although they were not worth quite £10 each; the contractor sold them again to the licensed lottery office keepers at £20 19s. per ticket, between three and four pounds more than he gave for them. The lottery office keeper put on another profit, which in those numbers divided into eighths, sixteenths, &c., amounted to about £1 per ticket; whence it is obvious, that the adventurer in this lottery, (and this may be considered as an average of lotteries in general,) gambled at a disadvantage of 100 per cent. And besides this assurances are carried on to the disadvantage of the public at about 40 per cent; but still it is not easy to estimate the actual expense which lotteries cost the public; the following statement, however, was hazarded by P. Colquhoun, Esq., and submitted to the above mentioned committee. The estimate seems to have been made upon the most favorable suppositions, and probably falls considerably short of the real loss sustained by the public.

Suppose three annual lotteries, each of 25,000 tickets, the	
public receives	£600,000
Contractors' profit at £1 per ticket,	75,000
Lottery office keepers' profit,	100,000
Assurers' profit of 33 1-3 per cent. on £1,000,000,	333,000
Total,	£1,108,000

The public are supposed to pay for 75,000 tickets, including
the additional advance of halves, quarters, &c., £1,275,000
The lower classes who assure are supposed to pay 1,000,000

£2,275,000

Deduct prizes, £750,000
do. amount obtained by assurers, . . 250,000 ——— £1,000,000

Loss to the public to gain £600,000 to the revenue yearly £1,275,000
or, as it may be otherwise represented, continues Mr. Colquhoun, the public
expends £2,275,000, and the public treasury is enriched only £600,000,—
for the £1,000,000 of prize money goes to support a worse confederacy,
doubtless, than the government.

The following is an account of the prices of tickets, and immediate profits
derived from them by the treasury of Great Britain, during the six years
from 1802 to 1807:—

Year.	No. of Tickets.	Price.	Profit to Government.
1802	100,000	£14 11s. 0d.	£555,000
1803	80,000	13. 13. 1.	£352,333
1804	1. 25,000	14. 15. 6.	119,375
"	2. 25,000	15. 16. 0.	145,000
"	3. 30,000	15. 13. 6.	170,250
			£434,625
1805	1. 25,000	17. 2. 9.	178,473
"	2. 25,000	18. 3. 0.	203,750
"	3. 25,000	17. 18. 9.	198,437
			£580,660
1806	1. 20,000	16. 12. 0.	132,000
"	2. 25,000	16. 14. 3.	167,812
"	3. 25,000	16. 10. 0.	162,500
"	4. 20,000	16. 19. 0.	139,000
			£601,312
1807	1. 20,000	17. 13. 6.	153,000
"	2. 25,000	17. 4. 0.	180,000
"	3. 25,000	16. 10. 6.	163,125
			£496,125

To these sums are to be added the advantages derived from postages,
stamps, &c., which are generally estimated at £2 per ticket, making the
mean annual profit above £750,000; but it was the opinion of those who

are best qualified to judge on these subjects, that this immense revenue was rather apparent than real; that the extra parochial taxes, brought on by the distress they occasioned; the decreased consumption of excisable articles, both before and during the time the lottery was drawing and for a few weeks afterwards, which decrease was actually ascertained by competent witnesses, fully counterbalanced the apparent gain. If this be the state of the case, what should induce government to continue to give their sanction to such delusive and dangerous species of gaming? At all events no other revenue is obtained by the state at an expense so great by one half, in point of pecuniary sacrifice to the public, independent of the excessive injury to the morals of the people.—(*Reference, Article "Lottery," in Rees' Encyclopædia.*

NOTE 4. PAGE 10.

Usually the lottery in England contained two or three prizes of £10,000 each, and sometimes one of £20,000.

During Mr. Pitt's administration the number and amount of higher prizes were greatly increased from former years. Some schemes contained four prizes of £20,000 each; others, two of £30,000 each. For the purpose of disposing of as great a number of tickets in the course of the year as possible, the lottery was divided into two or three smaller ones, drawn at different times. The amount of the principal prizes was also still further augmented. The lottery drawn in October, 1807, contained a prize of £40,000; and that drawn in June, 1808, six prizes of £20,000 each.

NOTE 5. PAGE 23.

We have before us an account made out by a young man of this city, which exhibits a melancholy picture of juvenile delinquency, induced by the temptations held out by the false promises of the lottery. The account consists of various articles, comprising gloves, handkerchiefs, suspenders, &c. which the young man had stolen from his employer, a dry goods dealer, to the amount of \$104,53, and which he disposed of at prices much below their real value, to several lottery ticket dealers, whose names he specifies in the account. He says he was led to purloin the articles from his master in the hope of gaining money in the lottery, and with the intention

of then refunding the amount he had stolen. Annexed to the account is the following certificate, signed by the young man, and witnessed by a neighbor of his employer.

" Boston, 12th November, 1832.

"I stole all the above goods from ——— store, No. — Washington Street, in Boston, at different times from 1st April, 1832, to 12th November, 1832. I do hereby acknowledge that I did this wicked act, and sold them to the persons above described."

(Signed)

* * * * *

Attest, * * * * *

The following is an extract from the Boston Atlas, November 23, 1832 :

"A young man about 19 years of age entered a lottery office in Exchange street yesterday morning, and bought a part of a lottery ticket, which he paid for with a pair of new gloves, and a black silk handkerchief. A person who kept his office in a part of the same room, noticed the circumstance, and after the young man retired, he advanced and inquired of the vender at what price he had taken those articles. The vender answered that he had allowed 40 cents for the gloves and about 60 for the handkerchief. Being a judge of the value of the articles, and knowing that their estimated value could not be less than three dollars, he took them from the lottery vender and proceeded into Washington Street, with a determination to find the young man and ascertain whether his suspicion that they had been stolen, was well founded. After showing them at several stores, they were recognized, and the young man identified. When charged with having fraudulently obtained the property, the young man made a full confession, and stated that he had been in the habit of depraving upon his employer's property for some time, in order to raise money to buy lottery tickets. What has been done with the delinquent, we have not been informed. This is another glaring and startling instance of the mischievous consequences resulting from lotteries. Here is a young man, probably ruined for life—whose character was unblemished—who was tempted to a course of vice and crime, merely to buy a lottery ticket—to make his fortune! Let young men take warning from his example."

A man of good character and probably worth several hundred dollars, who was pursuing a respectable business that gave him an income sufficient to support himself and family, and leave a surplus of something like \$500 per annum, has lately been ruined in property by speculations in lotteries. In 1831 or 1832, he commenced purchasing tickets to large amounts, which, he says, he was induced to do, by the urgent solicitations of a lottery broker. In the autumn of 1832 he failed, owing about \$5,000 over and above his means of paying, most of which was for lottery tickets, or for money borrowed with which to purchase them. After his failure, his friends remonstrated with him in regard to the ruinous consequences of this kind of gaming, and, for a time, he yielded to their persuasions, and promised never to purchase another ticket. In the beginning of 1833, however, influenced by the advice of a supposed friend, who had been

fortunate in the game, and who offered to guaranty his future purchases to the amount of \$200, he was again induced to renew his speculations; and in February last, he was cited to appear before the Grand Jury of this county, when his folly was exposed, and he was found to be still further involved to the amount of \$800 or \$1000. His pretended friend refused to make good his guaranty.

"A respectable gentleman of the society of Friends in this city, (New York) relates the following incident:—A farmer of his acquaintance in the country called on him to procure a loan of \$3000, on a mortgage of his valuable farm. The gentleman had the money to spare, was satisfied with the security, and was free to accommodate his old acquaintance. But he wondered exceedingly *why* the money was needed. After much inquiry, the fact was elicited. The farmer was indebted in that sum to a firm of lottery venders in this city, for sundry purchases of tickets."—(*New York Genius of Temperance.*)

"At the late term of the Supreme Court of Connecticut, county of Norwalk, held by Chief Justice Hosmer ———, a Bill in equity was brought by James Jennings vs. Samuel Sherwood, stating that the petitioner was a man of weak understanding, and that the respondent, taking advantage of his weakness, had by promise and persuasion induced him to purchase lottery tickets to the amount of nearly \$6000, from January 7th to July 26th, 1830; and on the day last mentioned had procured a note and mortgage for the amount of the loss on the tickets, for the sum of *two thousand four hundred and sixty-four dollars*—praying that said note and mortgage be rescinded and adjudged void. The petitioner failed to prove the allegation of the weakness of his understanding, and his petition was negatived."—(*Norwalk, Conn. Gazette*, 1831.)

"The case of suicide reported by the city of New York, during the last week, (Feb. 1831,) is one which ought to awaken alarm in the mind of every one. It is strange that the individual should have about his lifeless corpse the evidence that rum, lottery-gaming, and infidelity, were the trio of ruffians who drove him to this deed of infamy—this awful crime of self-murder. His card of address directed to a *grog-shop* as his boarding house—in his pocket were three *lottery tickets*, portending *blanks*, as the fruits of his gaming, and about his person was found a single leaf of '*Seneca's Morals*,' in which the crime of self-murder finds an apology, and even justification."—(*N. Y. Genius of Temperance.*)

The following are extracts from a letter, dated Portland, 1833.

"A dealer in lottery tickets who has been engaged in the business for nine years, has retired from it *poor*. He gives as a reason for having continued in it so long, that he was urged on "by a strange infatuation, hoping that fortune would at some time bestow her favors on one who had so often courted her smiles," and adds that he has "found by sad experience that all such hopes are worse than vanity."

"Several mechanics and traders, who were in good business in this

place, have been entirely ruined in property by dealing in tickets. Some of them were stripped even of their furniture. A young man, of a very respectable family, commenced business a year or two since, and was subsequently married to a lady of this city. Soon after which the elegant furniture given his wife by her father was attached for the payment of a bill for lottery tickets."

"It is asserted by one who has the best means of information, that *seven men* in this city have lost by lottery tickets in five years, *one hundred thousand dollars*."

"A farmer in this vicinity, yielded to the enticements of this species of gaming, and in a few months, his farm and all his property were taken from him as the result of his folly, and he was turned houseless and without a home into the wide world to seek in poverty a livelihood which he once enjoyed in competency."

"A respectable mechanic, a freeholder, and supposed to be well off, was in the habit of purchasing occasionally a ticket; drew a prize, and afterwards increased his purchases. He was beset by the brokers at every drawing of a lottery to take the tickets remaining *on hand*. Sometimes the loss would not be great, but generally, there was almost a total loss; on some occasions he was stopped by brokers on Sundays, when going to church with his family—they stated that news of a drawing would be in by the mail of that day. He continued this about two years, and then stopped, with a loss of about \$12,000."

J. R. T.

"A married woman, of respectable character, commenced gaming in the lottery. She lost a large sum, which she had secretly abstracted from the desk of her husband—the result of his hard earnings. Becoming alarmed and unhappy from the apprehension that he would miss the money, she submitted to prostitution to enable her to replace it. The facts were subsequently developed, and the family, in consequence, were ruined and broken up."

J. R. T.

The following is an extract from a letter written by Joseph Watson, Esq. formerly mayor of Philadelphia, who, in addition to his general testimony, gives an affecting instance of moral aberration in the decline of life.

"I do not think it necessary," says he, "to go into detail of a number of cases that occur to my remembrance, of the awful effects produced on individuals and families by the infatuation of lottery gaming. I have known individuals of former good repute and standing in society, who, in bitter agony of feeling, have declared to me, that they were guilty of breach of trust, larceny, or other crimes, induced solely by gaming in lotteries, and vesting all their property, and that of others entrusted to them, in tickets. I will state to you a single case, some time, I think, in 1827. A gray-headed old man, of gentlemanly appearance and acquirements, was brought into the police office, charged with picking a pocket; his trunk was searched, and in it were found lottery tickets, plans, and schemes, for many past years. Being asked why so great a quantity of these were found in his possession, he answered, in substance, that they

were the product of his lottery dealings for the last twelve or fifteen years, within which period he had actually squandered or expended for tickets as many thousand dollars, without at any time having been successful, except in trifling prizes; that he had recently spent his last dollar, his last ticket had come out a blank, and to prevent starvation, he had made the attempt for which he was brought up. This man, it was believed, had previously maintained an irreproachable character. I think he died a convict, in Walnut street prison."

J. R. T.

"The pernicious and destructive influence of the system is justly depicted by the Hon. John Sergeant, in a speech which he delivered in Congress in the year 1829. We extract a brief passage, as well for the intrinsic value of the testimony, as for the case which is related in elucidation:—'So great,' says he, 'is this temptation in its actual results on society, that in a thousand cases it has urged men to the commission of acts which brought them to a jail, if not the gallows.' He adverted to one very affecting instance in illustration of his position. It was the case of an aged and highly respectable man of character, till then unblemished, and of such standing as to bring him into an office of great trust in a monied institution. In consequence of a defalcation in the funds, the gray hairs of this unhappy man were brought to the lowest state of ignominy, by his being tried and convicted for purloining the money of the institution. It was found, on examining into the case, that all this amount of funds had gone into a lottery office. The man had been dealing in lottery tickets a long time before, (in tickets authorized by law,) but being unfortunate, he yielded in despair to the force of a propensity which sometimes gets the mastery of the strongest minds, and which is sure to make an easy conquest over weak ones."

J. R. T.

"The cashier of a bank in ———, who had long enjoyed the entire confidence of his fellow-citizens, was discovered to be a heavy defaulter. He at length confessed that the cause of his ruin was the lottery, in which he had largely embarked. He was insolvent to the amount of fifty thousand dollars."

J. R. T.

"It is a remarkable fact, that in all cases of delinquency on the part of the officers of the Bank of the United States, whether belonging to the principal institution or its branches, the unlawful fruits have been squandered in lottery offices. So far too as any knowledge has transpired in relation to the origin of delinquencies in our local banks, the same remark will apply—they are all traceable to, and centre in, the same shocking reservoirs of ruined virtue, shipwrecked fortunes, and blighted hopes!"

J. R. T.

"The following Table of insolvent persons who have sustained losses by dealing in lottery tickets, is made from the Records of the Insolvent Court of Philadelphia, by inspection of the petitions themselves, deliberately sworn or affirmed to by the petitioners. One case only is given from distinct recollection, as having occurred in 1826; a few are given in 1828

and 1829; but in the last three years, to wit, in 1830, 1831, and 1832, a regular examination has been instituted, and in those years, the list is believed to be complete. It may be observed that many losses are occasioned by purchases of lottery tickets where no mention is made of them in the petitions, but the fact is frequently elicited by examinations at the bar. Such cases, which are numerous, are of course not included in the table.

LOSS ON LOTTERY TICKETS BY INSOLVENT DEBTORS.

T. H.	Petition for March term, 1826, No. 77,	About \$50,000
S. P.	" " " " 1828, " 119,	Amount not known
T. H.	" " Sept. " 1828, " 98,	\$200
W. D.	" " " " 1828, " 46,	Returns the follow-

ing lottery brokers as his creditors, to wit:—

N. & S. Sylvester, note,	\$1294 82
John Francis, book account,	82 24
John Reeder, " "	32 87
P. J. Decker, " "	32 47
Robertson & Little, " "	13 00
Robert T. Bicknell, " "	27 31

The whole amount is, \$1482 71

M. D., Jun.	Petition for June term, 1829, No. 48,	\$3,900
T. D.	" " " " 1829, " 45,	Amount not re-

membered.

H. G.	Petition for June term, 1829, No. 61,	\$4,275
R. B. C.	" " " " 1829, " 21,	About \$800
G. W.	" " Sept. " 1829, " 336,	Between fifteen

and twenty thousand dollars.

T. M'Kean F.	Petition for Sept. term, 1829, No. 103,	At least \$200
J. A.	" " " " 1829, " 14,	\$700
J. A.	" " March " 1830, " 7,	Actual loss \$700
J. C. B.	" " " " 1830, " 15,	Am't not known
W. P.	" " " " 1830, " 126,	" " "
E. L.	" " " " 1830, " 127,	About \$450
L. L.	" " " " 1830, " 128,	About \$450
G. A.	" " June " 1830, " 11,	About \$1600
J. D.	" " " " 1830, " 75,	About \$100
J. B. D.	" " " " 1830, " 77,	Nearly \$1400
J. K.	" " " " 1830, " 168,	\$550
J. R., Jr.	" " " " 1830, " 252,	\$1420 75
P. S. W.	" " " " 1830, " 319,	About \$4000
C. P. Y.	" " " " 1830, " 329,	\$1263
A. S.	" " Sept. " 1830, " 218,	\$350
T. W.	" " " " 1830, " 263,	About \$400
D. B.	" " Dec. " 1830, " 7,	More than \$2500
C. L. C.	" " " " 1830, " 44,	Nearly \$400

G. M'L. Petition for Dec. term, 1830, No. 130, Heavy and repeated losses.

J. B. Petition for March term, 1831, No. 27, About \$100

J. S. F. " " " " 1831, " 73, About \$2000

G. W. " " " " 1831, " 200, A fine for selling foreign lottery tickets, \$2000

A. G. Petition for June term 1831, No. 88, Am't not known

T. T. C. " " " " 1831, " 52, About \$75

A. F. K. & Co. " " " " 1831, " 114, At least \$5000

A. N. " " " " 1831, " 152, \$200

A. G. R. " " " " 1831, " 171, About \$500

N. S. " " " " 1831, " 199, Returns the following debts as due to him, viz:—

G. W. for lottery tickets,	\$4,500 00
— —,* " "	2,700 00
H. W. " "	240 00
J. F. " "	250 00
G. A. " "	140 00
J. L. H. " "	250 00
L. T. " "	21 00
J. H. " "	7 00
G. K. L. " "	13 40
J. F. " "	48 79
J. N. " "	21 00
J. T. " "	11 00
S. B. " "	10 00
W. B. H. " " and cash lent,	1,100 00
E. B. " "	100 00
G. R. L. " "	22 00
A. C. " "	100 00

The whole amount due N. Sylvester, \$9,534 19

The following lottery brokers are creditors:—

Yates & M'Intyre of Philadelphia,	\$7,000 00
Robertson & Little,	900 00
Yates & M'Intyre of New York,	800 00

Due his creditors, \$8,700 00 8,700 00

\$18,234 19

Several of the debtors have been insolvent, and are returned in this list:

A. J. C. Petition for Sept. term, 1831, No. 52, About \$150

J. E. " " " " 1831, " 87, Am't not known

W. F. " " " " 1831, " 100, At least \$600

W. H. " " " " 1831, " 131, Says that he lost two or three hundred dollars.

* This debt has since been satisfied.

B. W. B. Petition for March term, 1832, No. 9, Ows

Yates & M'Intyre,	. . . . .	\$25,000
Paine & Burgess,	. . . . .	5,000
In all,	. . . . .	<u>\$30,000</u>

J. H.	Petition for March term 1832, No. 80,	Am't not known
R. M. S.	" " " " 1832, " 185,	\$5000
J. G. W.	" " " " 1832, " 203,	Has lost considerable sums in tickets drawn blanks.

E. B.	Petition for June, term 1832, No. 5,	\$98
J. H. B.	" " " " 1832, " 25,	\$4 62½
J. P. C.	" " " " 1832, " 47,	Am't not known
A. G. D.	" " " " 1832, " 57,	" " "
J. H.	" " Sept. " 1832, " 117,	" " "
H. T. R.	" " " " 1832, " 236,	The chief, and in fact only cause of his present embarrassment, is owing to his having dealt to a very considerable amount in lottery tickets, and thereby sustaining great losses.

J. H.	Petition for Dec. term, 1832, No. 97,	\$90 50
J. H.	" " " " 1832, " 102,	\$36 00
W. C.	" " " " 1832, " 37,	Has lost by having lottery tickets left on hand, about \$3,000 00
	He owes Yates & M'Intyre,	. . . . . 503 43
	Robertson & Little,	. . . . . 1,088 53
	J. J. Robinson,	. . . . . 2 00
	J. H.	. . . . . 20 00
In all,		<u>\$4,613 96</u>

J. R. T.

NOTE 6. PAGE 24.

On Saturday afternoon, January 26, at 3 o'clock, the body of Mr. David H. Ackers, a gentleman of about 35 years of age, who was employed as a clerk in the store of Messrs. James Read & Co. was found in the full basin at the Western Avenue leading from this city. It is understood that Mr. Ackers left his boarding house, in Milk street, at 8 o'clock, on the previous evening, under pretence of visiting his father in Brookline.

The following notice was published in the Boston newspapers of February 13, 1833 :—

"The recent *self-destruction* of MR. DAVID H. ACKERS, in this city, de-

mands a more emphatic public notice than it has yet received. The feelings of the community were perhaps never more painfully, more indignantly excited, than they have been by this afflicting event; and the remembrance of it must not be permitted to pass away, without giving such a stern and wholesome impulse to public sentiment, as will effectually remove all fear of a similar occurrence, from a similar cause.

"Mr. ACKERS, the misguided man, whose unhappy fate has been so generally deplored, had been, for ten years, the chief clerk in one of the first importing houses in the city; and to the hour of his death he enjoyed the unbounded confidence of his employers.

"His character for integrity and purity was unsullied.—Modest and amiable in his manners, temperate and domestic in his habits, he was endeared to all who knew him, as one without a vice.

"When the distressing tidings were first spread abroad, that he had been found dead, not the most distant suspicion was entertained that he had ended—that he *could* have ended his quiet existence by his own act. The rumor which momentarily prevailed, that he had been robbed and *murdered*, was received, it is true, with horror, but with implicit confidence; nor was it until the fatal evidence of his rashness was found in his own hurried handwriting, that they who had known, and loved, and trusted him so long, were made to feel that he had cruelly deceived them; and that in the distraction of remorse he had atoned for one crime by committing another—the darkest crime of all.

"But no—he *was* murdered. The waves that froze over him as he plunged into their icy embrace, did not more surely destroy him, than did the man who first enticed him from the quiet paths of duty and peace, and then drove him, to use his own dying words, "*into the presence of his Maker, to receive the dreadful sentence for self-destruction and abused confidence.*"

"ACKERS was the victim of a fraternity, who, to the disgrace of our city, are permitted to carry on their unlawful labors in every street and alley, in bold defiance of the penalties they deserve. The sin of his death lies in fact, at the door of a vender of lottery tickets. The outrageous extent to which he was duped will hardly be credited. In the short space of between seven and eight months, he embezzled the enormous sum of EIGHTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, *every cent of which was lost on lottery tickets.*

"I have no desire to excite *unmerited* ill-will against any member of the community; it is not my wish to draw down *undeserved* odium upon any particular mode, whereby men gain their livelihood; but of a traffic which even permits such a monstrous fraud as I have mentioned, I shall speak in no measured terms—and I have mistaken the temper of my fellow-citizens, if they are not prepared to sustain me in saying, that it must be broken up. They who follow it are daily and hourly violating the law of the land, and must be watched and detected and punished.

"I have been permitted to copy the dying declaration of poor ACKERS, which was found in his desk after his death.—It was probably written a few moments only before he committed the awful act to which he was hurried by the goadings of remorse. It is a simple picture of human woe.

In its untutored language we see to what a depth of wretchedness one false step reduced a man, upon whose whole life before not a blot had rested.

"Read it—all ye who know how much of virtue and vice is the mere offspring of accident—the creation of circumstance.

"Our daily prayer is, not to be led into temptation; let us watch, as well as pray, and drive out temptation from us—from us and from ours, from those we love and those we trust. We have made the land ring with our voices against intemperance—and it is well; but let us remember that there is another enemy abroad, whose assaults, if not so frequent, are no less subtle and ruinous. The dram-seller can at least boast that his sordid trade is not frowned upon by the law; but the vender of lottery tickets cannot urge even this miserable plea. His traffic is unlawful, as well as immoral; and in its consequences it has made desolate many a fire-side, that was never darkened by a drunkard. The mournful case of Ackers is not the only one, which has ended in ignominy and death; but let the people do their duty, and they can make it the last."

[THE FOLLOWING IS THE LETTER REFERRED TO ABOVE.]

"I have, for the last seven months gone fast down the broad road to destruction.

"There was a time, and that too but a few months since, that I was happy because I was free from debt and care.

"The time I note my downfall or deviation from the path of rectitude, was about the middle of last June, when I took a share in a company of lottery tickets, whereby I was successful in obtaining a share of one half the capital prize; since which I have gone for myself, and that too, not on a very small scale, as you can judge from the amount now due J. R. & Co. every dollar of which has been spent in that way.

"I have lived or dragged out a miserable existence for two or three months past. Sleepless nights and a guilty conscience have led me on to the fatal act.

"Only the hope of making Messrs. J. R. & Co. good for the defalcation has postponed it to the present time; a smaller amount I did hope, would be the result, for the worse luck I had the more I bought.

"Since I have reflected on my rashness, I cannot look back and see how it is possible I could have conducted in this way.—When the situation I occupied, and the confidence reposed in me, and the long time I have been engaged, and the reward for my poor services by —, that all should be lost in one moment—but the loss is too much for me to bear.

"Oh that seven or eight months past of my existence could be blotted out—but no, I must go, and ere this paper is read, my spirit is gone to my Maker, to give an account of my misdeeds here, and receive the dreadful sentence for self-destruction and abused confidence. [Two or three lines erased.]

"Relations and friends I have, from whom I do not wish to part under such circumstances, but necessity—O, wretch! lotteries have been thy ruin! I cannot add more."

A respectable mechanic of ———, about the year 1823, drew a prize of \$10,000. Previously he was estimated to be worth \$6,000. Soon after drawing the prize he purchased a large estate in the city for \$50,000, designing to sell it in house lots, and expecting to realize large profits therefrom. He also purchased, about the same time, a country seat in the vicinity of the city, for which, with outfits, he paid \$6,000. His losses in consequence of these speculations were at least \$20,000.

In 1832, he had become relieved of all embarrassments, and was enabled to pay cash for articles used in the prosecution of his business. About this time he drew two prizes, one of \$5,000, the other of \$2,000. Soon after which he neglected to fulfil his pecuniary engagements with the same promptitude as before. In the winter of 1832 and 1833 he failed, and absented himself from the city, leaving his creditors without their dues. At the time he drew the \$10,000, three other persons were concerned with him equally, in a prize of \$40,000; one of whom was worth, previously, from \$5,000 to \$10,000, and within six months from the drawing of the prize, he failed.

A young man of ———, (a cooper,) bought a few tickets in a lottery, and drew \$10,000, for which he obtained \$8,300. He purchased a house, and as he knew lottery money was "hard to hold," had the deed made in his wife's name. He continued to purchase tickets, soon contracted habits of intemperance, from a kind husband he became abusive, spent all his money, and his wife, to prevent his arrest, mortgaged the house, but was soon obliged to sell it, to procure means to keep him out of prison. He is now a confirmed drunkard, and his family are in destitute circumstances.

A young man, also of ———, a son of a wealthy merchant, was one of four who drew \$10,000. This success caused him to purchase many tickets. He became involved; his naturally amiable disposition, from repeated disappointment, was supplanted by excitability and chagrin; he became intemperate and addicted to gaming in various ways, and soon after left the country, deeply in debt. He went to the West Indies, and there continued his habits of gaming and dissipation, and was finally obliged to leave in the night, for fear of assassination. He then came back to the United States, and immediately shipped as a common sailor round Cape Horn.—The other three persons who shared the \$10,000 with him, soon after failed, as was supposed, from venturing largely in lotteries.

Another young man, (a clerk,) drew \$3,000. He commenced business, but continued to purchase tickets until he lost all the property he possessed, (being more than he drew in the lottery,) and finally failed, and is now very poor, and obliged to labor hard for a subsistence. But sad experience has not taught him the folly of relying upon *chance*; the deceitful promises of the lottery still have their influence over his visionary and credulous mind, and he declares he would spend still more for tickets, if he could afford it.

Another person, also of ———, who kept a store, and devoted his whole time to his business, and scarcely left his store during the week, unfor-

tunately drew a prize of \$5000. He still continued to pay strict attention to his business, and was no less temperate in his habits. But his success in the lottery proved his ruin. From that time he expended hundreds of dollars in each lottery that was presented to him, until he had exhausted all he had made by lotteries, all he had accumulated by a long course of successful industry, and all he could command by his credit. The result was certain. *He failed*; and, although he continued his habit of industry, became very poor. He probably sunk \$12,000 or \$15,000 in this most ruinous of all systems of gaming, over and above the prize money he received.

An extensive dealer in malt liquors, drew, four or five years ago, a lottery prize of \$10,000. He was previously supposed to be worth from 15 to 20,000 dollars, and was highly esteemed for his industry and perseverance in business. He rarely purchased a ticket previously to his drawing the prize—afterwards his adventures became very extensive, and in about a year he failed, and was able to pay only his preferred creditors.

A young man, who formerly was employed as a clerk in the Post Office at ———, drew a prize of \$8,000. Dissipated habits, and gaming of various kinds, caused his dismissal by the Post Master, and subsequently his ruin.

A person, several years ago, drew a prize of \$50,000, for which he received in cash, \$42,500—and yet *all this* was not enough to pay the demands against him for lottery tickets. He owed the brokers at the time \$45,000.

A respectable farmer in the interior of this state, drew, several years ago, a prize of \$10,000. His first expenditures embraced many improvements upon his farm, and the building of a large house. But the tavern soon overcame his attachment to his family—his pecuniary affairs were neglected—he became a bankrupt, a drunkard, and, to end his miserable existence, was his own murderer.

A person residing in ———, drew \$25,000. He was a watch-maker—which business he immediately closed, and had deposited in the bank at the time over \$19,000 in money. His first step was to build a house at an expense of \$10,000. He then opened a store with an extensive assortment of goods, and purchased a brig for whaling. In three years he failed, and was deficient \$18,000—having squandered in this short period the sum of \$37,000.

An Editor of a newspaper relates the following circumstance, which is a striking exemplification of the mutability of riches obtained by lotteries.—“A man,” says he, “who a few years ago was *blessed* with about \$20,000 lottery money, yesterday applied to us for 9d. to pay for a night’s lodging.”

A Mr. G——, of Franklin county, Mass., drew, about ten years since, a prize of \$20,000 in a lottery. He was a trader of a respectable family, but not possessed of much property. After he drew the prize he neglected his business, became dissipated and intemperate in his habits, and within two years past, he has been declared, by the selectmen of the town in which he resided, a vagabond, and a guardian has been appointed to take charge of

his remaining property for the benefit of his wife and family. To avoid the alms-house he fled to New York, taking with him two of his children. During the last summer his children, that he took away with him, were found by one of his former acquaintances, in the streets of New York, in a deplorable state of misery, being nearly starved and almost naked—and were taken by him to his own house, where they remained till an opportunity offered to convey them to their mother and friends in Massachusetts.

A young man, a native of E——, N. H. a few years ago, was so unfortunate as to draw a prize of \$1,000 in a lottery. Previously he had established a good character for industry, prudence and moral conduct—at the time he was a machinist in a large manufacturing establishment. His success so infatuated the people in that vicinity, that, during the six subsequent days, one lottery broker in the village where he then resided, took \$3000 for tickets. The effect on him personally was still worse. On drawing the prize he changed his business, and opened a grocery store—with his business, he changed his habits—and about two years afterwards, died a drunkard, by the side of his own rum cask, leaving a wife to deplore his ruin and death. In the village where the manufactory was situated, two other young men, his associates, have subsequently ruined themselves by the same species of gaming. One of them soon after died of intemperance, and the other is now a confirmed drunkard.

The following is an extract from a letter just received from a most undoubted source :—

“Four or five years ago a gentleman, then a commission merchant in P——, drew the *whole* of a \$50,000 prize in one of the Southern lotteries. The prize was subject to a deduction of 15 per cent., payable in 60 days from the time of drawing; he also made a further discount of \$500 for prompt pay, and actually received \$42,000 in *cash and lottery tickets*, the amount of the *latter* I never heard. He immediately purchased a *house, barouche, a span of horses*, etcetera, and invested the residue of his funds in ships, brigs, schooners, wild lands, and probably more *lottery tickets*. In less than 18 months the poor man died, and *his estate was found insolvent several thousands of dollars*.

“Not long after the death of the gentleman before alluded to, there was another disturbance among the lottery gamblers. A man, who had for years been engaged in the ship-chandlery business and who was generally supposed to be “above board,” was found, upon an investigation of his affairs, to be indebted for *borrowed money* about \$1200, all of which he borrowed of his neighbors in sums of from \$50 to \$300. He owed \$1000 for his stock in trade, and *two thousand dollars for lottery tickets*; and to pay these debts of more than \$4000, *all he had*, including his stock in his store and furniture in his house, was only about \$400. He subsequently acknowledged that he had spent more than \$5000 in *two years* for lottery tickets.”

An extract from a Connecticut paper: “As various reports are in circu-

lation respecting some recent disclosures of a fraud in the Hartford Bank, we have obtained from an officer in the Bank, the following particulars.—Mr. D. Hinsdale, book-keeper, has been in the Hartford Bank 29 years; during the last thirteen years, he has defrauded the Bank to the amount of \$31,020 23, overdrawing his account, for moderate sums, from time to time, and balancing it at the end of every six months, by falsifying his entries; and by making false footings in his trial balance, of the same amount, the fraud was not discovered. Property valued at \$9,653 67 has been conveyed to the Bank by Mr. Hinsdale, making the loss of the Bank \$21,366 56.—The larger part of the money taken from the Bank, by his own account, was expended for lottery tickets. Mr. H. was supposed to have been unusually fortunate, we believe, in drawing prizes in lotteries.”

The N. Y. Journal of Commerce, on copying the above, says, “We happen to know that a broker in this city, some years since, paid Mr. Hinsdale a prize of \$10,000.”

The Editors of the Philadelphia Saturday Bulletin of May 28, 1830, say: “We witnessed a strange sight on Thursday evening, within a few doors of our office; a young man had drawn a large prize in one of the lotteries, and had just received the proceeds, amounting to more than \$8,000. It drove him crazy on the spot. No sooner had he received the money than his senses forsook him, and being an utter stranger in the city, he roamed through the streets like a madman, until going into a jeweller’s shop near Fourth street, he purchased a dagger, for which he offered \$100—a crowd had followed him to the shop door, attracted by the singular spectacle, and then he came out swearing he would kill the first man he met—a threat which his distorted senses would certainly have compelled him to execute. We left him in the charge of some humane individuals, a melancholy spectacle of the weakness of poor human nature.”

We extract the following from “A report of a Committee appointed to investigate the evils of Lotteries in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and to suggest a remedy for the same.” Philadelphia, 1831. “The narration,” says the report, “is found in a petition for the benefit of the insolvent laws, signed, as usual, by the applicant, and delivered under the responsibility of an oath. ‘The petitioner became of age on the 24th December, 1828, and immediately commenced speculations in lottery tickets; he received from different sources other than from lotteries, and at different times, about \$975, the greater part of which he either laid out for tickets, or paid on account of tickets which he had before purchased; he drew, at different times, prizes to the amount of \$4000, which he also invested as soon as received, in other tickets, or on account of those which he had purchased before; and he sunk in these speculations, in the short period of six months, all that he had, and is left upwards of \$3300 in debt beyond his means to pay.’ The Committee have no reason to believe that this is the most striking example of the kind which could be exhibited. The class to which it belongs must embrace numbers; for, so rapidly do the drawings of the different lotteries succeed each other at the present time, that it has become a standing sign at many offices in the city, “LOTTERY DRAWS TO-

DAY"—a notification which is distinguished from almost every thing else connected with these establishments, by being literally true!"

"Mr. ———, whose good fortune in the lottery had been extensively bruited as wonderful, failed a few years ago. He had once drawn a prize of \$40,000, and others of inferior amount. The account which he kept showed an aggregate of \$80,000, drawn at different periods—but his expenditures for tickets amounted to the sum of \$120,000! He was insolvent \$70,000!"

J. R. T.

"A young man, of respectable family, was in the employment of an extensive mercantile house in this city, (Philadelphia). For a number of years he conducted himself with great propriety and fidelity, married an amiable young woman, with whom he lived happily, and had an interesting little family growing up around him. His salary was such as to enable him to live comfortably and respectably, with a proper attention to frugality. For some time previous to the sad development of his dishonesty, there was an obvious change in his countenance and conduct at home. He became irritable, and showed some unkindness to his wife and children. One morning he was missed from the counting house * * *. He had eloped—and left his wife and children in a situation even more distressing than that of the widow and the fatherless. A note was found addressed to his employers, stating that he had been tempted many months before to purchase a lottery ticket, the possession of which had excited an insatiable thirst for buying more. That he had gone on for a considerable time, occasionally elated by obtaining a prize, and at other times almost in despair, racked with anxiety and suspense, and tortured with the fear of the consequences which must result from the iniquitous course he was pursuing. But the passion for this dreadful species of gaming had completely infatuated him—he exhausted his own funds in the purchase of tickets, and reached forth his hands to embrace the money of his employers. The compunctions which he first felt for so disgraceful an act, were soon drowned in the vain and false hope of retrieving his ruined fortunes. Again and again did he appropriate their money to gratify his unholy appetite for lottery tickets, contriving by false entries to conceal the robbery, until at length the sum became so great that it could not longer be kept a secret. Unable to face the degradation and reproach which must ensue, he took the desperate resolution of abandoning a faithful and affectionate wife and his helpless children, and absconded, leaving them destitute of almost every comfort. The sum of which he defrauded his employers amounted to thousands of dollars."

J. R. T.

"A person in the laboratory of the Messrs. ———, drew \$20,000. With this sum he furnished a house, and commenced living in a style totally different from that to which he had been accustomed. He contracted intemperate habits, and in twelve months squandered the whole amount of his prize. He became miserably poor, incapable of working, and very dissolute."

J. R. T.

"The mania for lottery adventuring was never perhaps, more strongly

manifested than in the case of Mr. Christopher Bartholomew, who was once the proprietor of White Conduit House at Pentonville. Independent of his possessing the freehold of that house, and of the Angel Inn at Islington, he rented land to the amount of £2000 a year, in the neighborhood of Islington and Halloway; and was remarkable for having the largest quantity of hay stacks of any grower in the neighborhood of London. At that time, he was believed to be worth £50,000, kept his carriage, and servants in livery, and upon one occasion, having been unusually successful at assuring in the lottery, gave a public breakfast in his tea garden, "to commemorate the smiles of fortune," as it was expressed upon the tickets of admission to this fete champetre. He at times had some very fortunate hits in the lottery, which, perhaps, tended to increase the mania which hurried him to his ruin. He has been known to spend upwards of 2000 guineas in a day for assurance, to raise which, stack after stack of his immense crops of hay have been cut down and hurried to market, as the readiest way to obtain the supplies necessary for these extraordinary out-goings. Having at last been obliged to part with his house from accumulated difficulties and embarrassments, he passed the last thirteen years of his life in great poverty, subsisting by the charity of those who knew him in his better days, and the emolument he received as juryman of the sheriff's court for the county. Still his propensity to be engaged in this ruinous pursuit never forsook him; and, meeting one day in the year 1807, with an old acquaintance, he related to him a strong presentiment which he entertained, that if he could purchase a particular number, in the ensuing lottery, (which he was not then in a situation to accomplish,) it would prove successful. His friend, after remonstrating with him on the impropriety of persevering in a practice that had already been attended with such evil consequences, was at last persuaded to go halves with him in a sixteenth part of the favorite number, which being procured, most fortunately drew a prize of £20,000. With the money arising from this extraordinary turn of fortune he was prevailed upon by his friends to purchase an annuity of £60 per annum; yet, fatally addicted to the pernicious habits of assurance, he disposed of it and lost it all. He had been known frequently to apply to those persons who had served him in his prosperity, for an old coat, or some other article of cast off apparel; and not many days before he died, he solicited a few shillings to buy necessaries. He died aged 68, in March, 1809, in a room up two pair of stairs, in Angel Court, Windmill street, Haymarket."

NOTE 7. PAGE 26.

The addition to the scheme price to constitute the vender's profit, is not, however, uniform. We have in our possession schemes of various lotteries, which, on examination, manifest the following facts. A scheme issued

by Yates & M'Intyre, as managers of the R. I. State Map Lottery, advertises the retail price of tickets at \$2 each, the scheme price of which is \$1.50. A scheme issued in 1831, by J. Paine, D. Burgess and F. W. Dana, as managers of the "Connecticut Lottery, for the erection of a bridge at Enfield Falls," also advertises the retail price of tickets at \$2 each, the scheme price of which is but \$1.50. A scheme of the "Delaware and South Carolina Consolidated Lottery," Yates & M'Intyre, managers, advertises the retail price of tickets at \$3 each, the scheme price of which is \$2.25.—A scheme in the "Maine State Lottery," S. Mudge & Co. agents for the managers; also, a scheme in the "Delaware and North Carolina Consolidated Lottery," Yates & M'Intyre, managers; and another in the "Washington City Lottery," Yates & M'Intyre managers; each advertises the retail price of tickets at \$4 each, the scheme price of which is but \$3.

In each of these lotteries it will be perceived that the addition to the scheme price is 33 1-3 per cent. And this, we believe, is invariably the case in regard to all lotteries, the tickets of which are retailed at either \$2, \$3 or \$4 each. Those lotteries, however, of which the tickets are retailed at either \$5 or \$10 each, value their tickets in the scheme at \$4 or \$8 each; which shows the addition to be 25 per cent. And this is the smallest addition made on the tickets of any lottery of recent date, that has fallen under our observation.

We have one scheme in our possession that demands particular attention. The scheme purports to be in the "CONSOLIDATED GRAND STATE LOTTERY, Extra Class, No. 1, for 1831"—E. & B. A. Clark, (of Boston,) managers. The advertisement annexed to the scheme, contains the following declaration: ☐ "This Lottery will be determined by the drawing of the DISMAL SWAMP CANAL LOTTERY, Class No. 2, for 1831, which takes place at Richmond, on Friday, Feb. 11, 1831." The tickets in this scheme are advertised at \$1 each, the scheme price of which is only 70 cents—showing an addition, for the benefit of the venders, of more than 42 1-2 percent. exclusive of the 15 per cent. deduction for prizes. We may here be permitted to ask, if this lottery was not a *fiction* one—made up by Messrs. Clark, without any Legislative authority whatever, (for who compose the Legislature of the "GRAND STATE"?) and in defiance of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?

NOTE 8. PAGE 32.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord 1821.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed February 9, 1821, "To examine, in the recess of the Legislature, into the accounts and concerns of the

Plymouth Beach Lottery, so called, with full power to send for persons and papers, and make report of their doings on the first day of the first session of the next General Court," have attended to that service with some care, and now respectfully submit the following

REPORT.

The first grant of a Lottery to the town of Plymouth, to raise \$16,000 for the purpose of completing the repairs of Plymouth Beach, was for the term of five years, and was dated Feb. 28, 1812. Among other things, it provided that the managers should give bonds to the town for \$15,000, with condition to pay over the whole proceeds, without deduction for services or expenses, excepting one thousand dollars; and should render an account to the Selectmen of Plymouth, to be approved of by them, and then presented to the Governor and Council for approbation, and should pay to the agents appointed by the town, in sixty days after each class was drawn, 15-16ths of the proceeds of each class. Under this act, the managers were chosen; but it does not appear that any thing more was done. On the 18th June, 1812, about four months after the first grant, an additional act was passed, authorizing the managers, instead of being confined to one thousand dollars for all charges and expenses, to deduct from the sum raised in each class, the charges of stationary, printing, and other necessary expenses of drawing each class of said lottery, *managers' services and expenses excepted*. With this additional act the lottery proceeded, and within the term of two years, four classes were completed, the first having been finished in April, 1813, and the fourth in October, 1814. *But before this time, the Committee are most clearly of an opinion that the lottery ought to have been stopt*; for it appears, beyond the admission of a doubt, that, after deducting all the charges, which by the act then existing they had a right to make, and which amounted to no less than \$7,767 24, there was, on the completion of the third class, a clear gain of \$22,718 97; leaving in the hands of the managers a surplus of \$7,718, 97, *beyond the sum of \$15,000 allowed to be raised for the repairs of the Beach*. If to this be added the result of the fourth class, the gain would be increased to \$27,038 10; being \$12,038 10, in the hands of the managers, *over and above the sum allowed to be raised; and this after taking out \$10,761 07 for expenses*. In this estimate, it is true, that nothing is allowed for the *services of the managers*, because the law expressly forbade it. But if, on a representation to the Legislature, at the end of the third or fourth classes, a charge for their services, though in words excepted, should have been deemed reasonable, the General Court would probably have considered that the means in hand were most ample for that purpose, and would not, by any additional powers, have permitted the lottery to proceed any further; for if it had ceased at the end of the third class, there would have been a surplus, as before stated, of \$7,718 97, and if at the fourth, of \$12,038 10; applicable to the payment of the managers or to any other object, as the government might have directed. Why the lottery was not brought to a close, at either of these periods, the Committee are at a loss to conjecture. It does not appear from any of the

papers, that the Selectmen, or their agent, made any examination of the accounts of the managers, or that the latter presented any account for settlement, on the completion of the third or fourth classes. On the contrary, your Committee have understood, that no examination of that kind took place, till after the drawing of the sixth class. The grant, indeed, required that, *in 60 days after each class was drawn*, the proceeds should be paid to the town of Plymouth. The third class was finished March 28, 1814. In sixty days from that time, viz. May 28, 1814, though the whole sum of \$15,000 was gained, by the terms of the grant, and \$7,718 97 besides, the town had received but \$3000; and in sixty days after the fourth class was finished, viz. December 31, 1814, only \$9,110 04 had been paid, in all, to the town.

The Committee, having proceeded thus far, can only regret that an accurate view of the affairs of this lottery had not been taken at the time of completing the fourth class, as, in that case, it seems impossible that the gentlemen concerned, on the part of the town, should have felt themselves warranted in going a step further without first submitting their doings to the Governor and Council, as the act required. Instead of doing this, however, an additional act was asked for, and obtained February 16, 1815, by which authority was given to the managers to deduct from each class, not only the charges of stationary, printing, and other expenses of drawing of every class, but also like reasonable compensation for their services and expenses as were allowed by the President and Fellows of Harvard College to the managers of the lottery made under their act of March 14, 1806; any thing in the former acts to the contrary notwithstanding. The compensation to the College managers was found by the Committee, though not mentioned in their act, to have been 5 per cent. to the managers on all tickets sold, and 2 per cent. to venders, besides other charges. Under this third act, the managers of the Plymouth Beach proceeded to draw seven classes more, making in all eleven, and completed the last April 30, 1821. On examination it was found that, in making up their accounts, the managers have deducted the same commissions and services for *themselves*, in the four classes drawn and finished previously to the act of 1815, as on the seven subsequently drawn. Whether this could have been the intention of the Legislature, under any circumstances, the Committee do not undertake to decide. Stating their accounts in this way, however, the managers make it appear that the nett sum of gain payable by them, on the eleven classes, to the town of Plymouth, is only \$9,876 17; and of course that the lottery ought to proceed till they have raised \$5,123 85 more. The Committee have observed, in looking into this statement, that the commissions charged as paid to venders exceeds 2 per cent. by the sum of \$3,152 93, which, if wrong, would reduce the sum still to be raised to \$1,970 92.—There is nothing, in point of time, to prevent the managers from going on, because there was yet another act in their favor, obtained December 9, 1816, which allows them to prosecute said Lottery till they have gained the \$15,000, with the necessary expenses attending the same, agreeably to

the several acts passed on this subject. Nine years have elapsed since the lottery was granted, and it has been in operation for about that period.

Your Committee have endeavored to state precisely the result of the four first classes. They now beg leave to present the issue of the whole number of eleven together, as made out by the managers. They shall then, as they trust, have given to the General Court a true, and as they hope, a plain and intelligible view of the whole matter, and thus have answered the object of their appointment.

The whole number of eleven classes comprehended 118,000 tickets, amounting to . . .	\$883,000 00
Advance received on the same by sales when drawing,	3,439 75
	<hr/> \$886,43 75

Accounted for as follows:—

Amount paid out for prizes in money, . . .	\$594,571 11	
“ “ “ in tickets,	37,300 00	
	<hr/> 631,871 11	
Amount of tickets returned unsold,	162,976 00	
	<hr/> 794,847 11	
Commissions of Managers, cast on the eleven classes alike,	35,987 43	
Deduct commissions on bad debts,	1,166,14	
	<hr/> 34,821 29	
Services of the Managers, by the day, on eleven classes,	2,722 00	
	<hr/> 37,543 29	
Commissions to venders,	15,326 77	
“ “ extra,	1,034 18	
	<hr/> 16,360 95	
Clerk hire,	1,018 00	
Printing expenses, &c.	1,669 02	
Postages,	109 23	
Boys for drawing, for rolling numbers, for making lists, &c.	668 50	
House hire while drawing,	1,011 18	
Counterfeit money,	14 00	
Bad debts,	23,700 18	
Deduct what has been recovered,	1,377 86	
	<hr/> 22,322 32	
Interest on money borrowed to carry on fifth class,	1,000 00	
Amount paid to the town of Plymouth for the nett gain on 11 classes,	9,876 15	
	<hr/> \$886,439 75	

“ The Committee deem it proper to add, notwithstanding what has been said, that the managers, after finishing six classes, submitted them to the

town of Plymouth for examination, and, after completing the remaining five, submitted them to the examination of the Governor and Council.— The evidence of their having done this, is herewith presented, as part of this report. They deem it but just, further to add, that the managers, in justification of their having allowed extra commissions to venders, produced a settlement made with the Harvard College managers, in which the sum of \$200 was allowed for a like purpose, though the contract between the college and its managers were silent on that point.

The present occasion affords a good opportunity for your Committee to express, what they so strongly feel, their most decided disapprobation of lotteries, and to set forth their ruinous effects on those classes of the community least able to bear the loss: but they refrain, under the impression that, if the late disclosures made to the Legislature, on the subject of lotteries, are insufficient to prove their pernicious tendency, nothing which they can say could be of any avail.

In conclusion, your Committee report it as their deliberate opinion, that the objects of the Plymouth Beach Lottery have been fully attained, and that the managers have no legal right to proceed with it any longer.

“A Committee appointed to investigate the evils of lotteries in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and to suggest a remedy for the same,” Dec. 1831, reported a variety of facts in regard to the pecuniary affairs of the “Union Canal Lottery” of that state, showing it to be one of the most extravagant and wasteful methods of raising revenue that can be devised.— That lottery was granted by an act of Legislature, dated April 2, 1811, for the purpose of raising \$340,000, and has been continued ever since. From a report of a Committee of the House of Representatives of that state, we find that the schemes that have been issued by the managers of that lottery, up to the beginning of the present year, amount to \$21,248,190. The lottery at present is in the hands of Yates & M’Intyre of New York, who pay the Union Canal Company \$30,000 annually for the privilege of raising, without limit, as much money, by this means, as they may find it within their power to effect. And the past year they issued schemes to the amount of \$5,338,220. So that, if all the tickets in these schemes are sold at an advance of 25 per cent., which is the lowest customary rate, there is \$6,672,775 taken from the pockets of individuals yearly, by this lottery, while but \$30,000 is placed in the treasury of the Union Canal Company.

NOTE 9. PAGE 35.

“The Green Mountain Lottery of Vermont,” Classes Nos. 1 and 2, and extra Class No. 1, H. F. Saunders & Co. Managers, (office Jersey City,

New Jersey,) the first class to be drawn at Arlington, July 14, 1830; the second at Pownal, July 22, and the last also at Pownal, July 29th, was gotten up by H. F. Saunders & Co., the tickets sold and class No. 1, drawn privately at a tavern near the New York line, by Saunders and one other.—*Mont. Watchman*.

"A *qui tam*. suit was some time since commenced in Vermont, J. Wyllis vs. H. F. Saunders and L. Wilson, to recover the penalty incurred under a statute of that State to prevent 'the making or setting up of Lotteries.' The case has been recently tried at Manchester, Judge Williams presiding. It appeared in evidence that the respondents had issued tickets at Jersey City, under a scheme purporting to be 'the Green Mountain Lottery of Vermont, for the benefit of the Green Mountain Turnpike Association—H. F. Saunders & Co. managers.' The lottery was drawn at Pownal on the 22d of July last. No such grant of a Lottery having been made by the Legislature, the respondents incurred a penalty equal to the whole amount of the scheme; and the Jury accordingly rendered a verdict for the complainant of \$102,660."—*Boston Palladium*, Oct. 15, 1830.

NOTE 10. PAGE 35.

Extracts from Gov. Lincoln's Message to the Legislature of Massachusetts, February 12, 1833.

MESSAGE.

To the Hon. Senate and House of Representatives:—

"The sympathies of the community, excited in an unusual degree by a recent melancholy occurrence in this city, have led, through diligent and painful inquiry, to the most astounding disclosures of an extensively prevalent, although hitherto almost unheeded cause of personal and domestic distress, of legal transgression, and of wide-spread and overwhelming moral evil. It has been satisfactorily ascertained that a high-handed system of dealing and gaming in Lotteries and Lottery Tickets is now carried on in this Commonwealth, in despite of the prohibitions of law, in defiance of the vigilance of the prosecuting officers, and in utter disregard of the inflictions of the tribunals of Justice. A highly respectable committee of an association of citizens of the metropolis have, with the most commendable spirit, directed their attention to endeavors to arrest the frauds and mischiefs of this demoralizing traffic, and in furtherance of their object, have addressed to me, in my official capacity, an earnest and impressive memorial on the subject. They represent that *Tickets of Lotteries granted in other States are openly sold in this; that tickets are manufactured*

in fictitious Lotteries, and halves and quarters of tickets representing the same number, are multiplied indefinitely, both in real and pretended Lotteries, and these indiscriminately and successfully, to an immense amount, imposed upon ignorant and deluded purchasers.

"The influence of such schemes of deception to allure the laborious poor from the path of honest industry, and to cheat them of hard-earned wages, to entice the young and unreflecting from their fidelity, and betray them into a violation of their trust, and the commission of heinous crimes, cannot be doubted, while the desolating and fatal effects upon the social relations of life, are scarcely less to be deplored. The memorial proposes that measures should be taken, through the Legislature, or otherwise, to induce in all the States in the Union, *the absolute and entire abolition of Lotteries.* * * * * *

"In what respect does the fabrication of tickets in schemes of unlicensed or pretended lotteries differ from the grossest act of counterfeiting; or the unlimited multiplication and sales of parts of tickets beyond whole numbers, constitute a more venal fraud than the uttering of spurious Bank Paper? I humbly submit, that these acts, wilfully committed, should be ranked in the same class of offences, and that imprisonment and infamy should be denounced by the violated law against the perpetrators of the felony."

The following are extracts from an able and judicious Report submitted to the Legislature of Massachusetts, February, 1833, by a special committee, of which J. T. Buckingham, Esq., of Boston, was chairman, to whom, with his associates, the thanks of this community are justly due, for their well-timed and persevering exertions in suppressing this species of gaming in this Commonwealth.

"At the February term of the Municipal Court of the City of Boston, the number of indictments found by the Grand Jury for the violations of the Lottery laws was SEVENTY-SIX, and the number of persons indicted was THIRTY-SIX. The greater part of these persons were venders of tickets, who have offices for selling them; some were street-pedlers, employed by the brokers to sell tickets in various parts of the city. * * * * *

"Many of the tickets exhibited to the grand jury, as evidence of the violation of the laws, purported to be tickets in lotteries granted by competent authority in other States. There is no doubt, however, that a considerable portion of them are spurious, and issued under no higher nor more responsible authority than that of a board of lottery-brokers. Such tickets, there is good reason to believe, are manufactured in large quantities, and sold in all the large towns and manufacturing villages in the State, by pedlers, bar-keepers, travelling agents and others, who receive a commission for their services, and gain a livelihood by wages of iniquity.

"After a careful examination of the existing statutes for the regulation and suppression of lotteries, and on endeavoring to discover their defects, the Committee were led to reflect on the nature of the offence of dealing in

lottery tickets, and the remedies that it might be proper to adopt; and they ask leave to state, in as brief a manner as possible, their views on these two points :

“ And — *First*. What is the offence of dealing in lottery tickets ?

“ To this question it may be answered :—

“ 1. It is *gaming*. This is against the policy of society, and there are few civilized nations that have not adopted means to restrain or entirely prohibit it; because it is seeking property for which no equivalent is to be paid; and because it leads directly to losses and poverty, and, by exciting bad passions, is the fruitful origin of vice and crime.

“ 2. It is the *worst* species of gaming, because it brings adroitness, cunning, experience and skill, to contend against ignorance, folly, distress and desperation. It can be carried on to an indefinite and undefinable extent without exposure; and, by a mode of settling the chances by ‘combination numbers’—an invention of the modern school of gaming—the fate of thousands and hundreds of thousands may be determined by a single turn of the wheel.

“ 3. Lotteries, in their best and least questionable character, proceed upon the ground that ninety adventurers in a hundred *must lose*, in order that ten *may acquire*, in different proportions, and in cases, too, in which none have a *right* to acquire.

“ 4. Lotteries, like other games of chance, are seductive and infatuating. Every new loss is an inducement to a new adventure; and, filled with vain hopes of recovering what is lost, the unthinking victim is led on, from step to step, till he finds it impossible to regain his ground, and he gradually sinks into a miserable outcast; or, by a bold and still more guilty effort, plunges at once into that gulf where he hopes protection from the stings of conscience, a refuge from the reproaches of the world, and oblivion from existence.

“ Considered as a *means* to unfair and fraudulent dealing, lotteries are to be classed with those crimes, by which one man is cheated out of his property by another.

* * * * *

“ If a half-starved, miserable wretch, who steals a piece of goods to cover his nakedness, or perhaps an article of food to keep a family from starving, must go to the State prison, what ought to be done with him who aids and entices a youth to abuse the confidence reposed in him by his employer; to ruin his own character; to fill with inexpressible agony the bosoms of his father and mother; to bring shame and reproach on the nearest and dearest connexions in life; to break and rend asunder the sympathies and affections of humanity; to heap vice upon folly, and crime upon vice; to add to theft forgery, and to forgery robbery, and to robbery *suicide*; to dig a grave for the body, and to send the soul to its awful account, where no human eye can discover the result, but all is left to the horrible imaginings of a guilty conscience, and the unutterable fears attendant upon the consciousness of abused faculties, perverted privileges, and successive violations of the laws of God ?”

We are permitted by a friend to publish the following extract of a letter received by him from a respectable merchant of Providence, R. I. :—

“ Providence, 6th April, 1833.

“ Mr. ———, Boston,

“ DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 3d inst., covering lottery tickets, I have received to-day, and, agreeably to your request, have ascertained their value. One of them has drawn one dollar; two are blanks, and three are a sheer fraud on the public, there never having been any lottery of that name —‘ Consolidated State Lottery,’—in Rhode Island. I return the tickets to you, (except the prize, for which I have received 85 cts.) as you may wish to use them in obtaining redress for the fraud. * * * * It is high time this authorized gaming was put down. * * * *

“ Yours truly, * * * * ”

We have before us a scheme purporting to be in the above-mentioned lottery, which bears upon it the name of no person as manager; and has no date as regards place or time, excepting the declaration that it is “To be decided by the drawing of the Connecticut Lottery, Class No. 51, for 1832, to be drawn in the city of New Haven, on Saturday, Feb. 2d, 1833.” Schemes of this kind were freely circulated in this city during January last, and the early part of February, and tickets exposed for sale, and which, as appeared in evidence before the Municipal Court of this county, at its April session, were printed at Providence by order of a broker of this city. These tickets, several of which we also have before us, bear upon them the signature of “Evans,” at the end of the words, “For the managers.” It also appeared in evidence before the court just mentioned, that this signature was put upon the tickets by a young and irresponsible boy.

We are indebted to the Hon. Judge Thatcher, of the Municipal Court in this city, for the following extract which he has permitted us to copy from his charge to the Grand Jury, delivered at the May term, 1833.

Commenting upon the lottery law of 1833, he says as follows :—

“The Legislature must have considered that the whole system of Lotteries, as practised in this Commonwealth before the passing of that law, was founded in fraud. In a late trial in this court, it appeared that an individual sent to his agent in Providence for a parcel of blank tickets in a lottery, which was to be denominated “The Twenty-fourth class of the Consolidated State Lottery.” The tickets were accordingly printed, and sent to him here, where they were signed by some obscure person, whom nobody knew, and who was said to be a minor and wholly deficient in responsibility. Whether there was any scheme of the lottery, or it was ever drawn, or intended to be so, did not appear. Who would not see that this was a clear fraud, and that the ticket was a false token, by which the unsuspecting purchaser was defrauded of his money without consideration and without security?

“It ought to be known, that the purchaser of a lottery ticket has the right to complain of the vender in every instance, and to compel him to render proof that the ticket was not a spurious manufacture for the purpose of

fraud and imposition, and to furnish proof against those who are responsible in law for the conduct and management of the lottery.

"I advise you therefore, if you find a bill against any offender under this act, to frame the indictment so as to compel the party accused to prove that the lottery has a solid foundation, and not fictitious. There is no hardship in imposing this burden on the vender of lottery tickets, for he knows of whom he received them, and who is answerable for them; and it is fair to presume, that he has received his commission for engaging in this unlawful traffic. I have thus availed myself of this occasion, to state to you particularly the provisions of this act, that they may attract your more especial attention, and in that way become better known to the citizens, for whom they are intended as rules of conduct in their social state."

During the trial of Mr. Charles N. Baldwin for a Libel, in charging fraud and swindling on certain persons engaged in the management of lotteries in the State of New York, in 1818, it appeared in evidence, that several extensive frauds had been perpetrated during the drawing of several classes of a lottery called the "Medical Science Lottery." The frauds were effected by persons who were engaged in drawing the lottery, having previously abstracted certain Nos. from the wheel which they retained in their pockets, and which they "*called*" against certain large prizes. A similar case was proved in regard to the Owego Lottery, where a certain ticket that was soiled, as though it had been carried in the pocket, was drawn against a prize of \$35,000. It was also proved that, on another occasion, a prize of \$10,000 was kept out of the wheel until the drawing was nearly completed. Several other minor frauds were proved, particularly in the practice of assurances. Mr. Baldwin was honorably acquitted, having sustained by evidence on trial the charges of fraud which he had publicly made.

The following is an extract from a Presentment recently made by a Grand Jury of New York:—

"In order to understand some of the evils arising from the sale of foreign lottery tickets, we would specify, the running of expresses, the mispayment of prizes, the forgery of numbers, fraudulent drawers, non-payment of prizes, and last, not least, policying. On this subject we would say, there are some offices in this city that, on the day the account of the drawers is received from abroad, are crowded with persons who have paid from three dollars to some shillings each, for a policy against certain numbers being drawn. These persons are mostly servants or poor people, who spend their time and means in this way, affording great temptation after they have policyed away their own property to use that of others. In all these points we have sufficient evidence to make this Presentment."

It is a common practice for individuals to become possessed of the numbers of various tickets, and the names of the purchasers of them; (and we are informed that it is the custom of many brokers to keep a register of all their tickets, and the name of the purchaser of each ticket when possible,) and after the drawing takes place to repair to the owners of such tickets as have

drawn prizes, with as much dispatch as possible to prevent the suspicion of any artifice, and become the purchasers of them, perhaps at a small advance.

"A person residing in or near Germantown, (in the vicinity of Philadelphia,) held a ticket which drew the highest prize. Before the fact was known to the holder, three men rode out from the city, and so frightened the man by representing to him that his ticket was forged, that he was induced to relinquish it. The men returned to the city, obtained the prize, and divided it amongst them."

J. R. T.

This we understand has been practised to a very large extent during the drawing of the Gold Land Lottery in the State of Georgia the present year.

We also have been informed that after the drawing of a Lottery in Vermont, a number of years ago, several expresses immediately started off for Boston, for the purpose of buying up the prize tickets.

"A gentleman, worth considerable money, commenced the lottery business in this city, (Philadelphia,) about two years since, and did a very large business, and risked a great many tickets for himself; so many that he stopped with the loss of all he commenced with, and much indebted to the managers. A friend of this gentleman called on the managers to see what arrangement could be made about the balance due. The managers very readily informed him, that they should not trouble Mr. — for what he owed them, as 'he had not only ruined himself, but had broken more men than any other vender in so short a time.'"

J. R. T.

The following is copied from the Portland Daily Advertiser:—

"A pocket-book containing the following letter was lost in this town yesterday. The letter was not sealed. The gentleman, into whose hands it fell, opened it, for the purpose of ascertaining to whom the pocket-book belonged. The letter contained thirteen dollars of good Portland money, bound on its way to the principal lottery office in town, to purchase tickets.

"The gentleman believed as we do, that the publication of the letter would do good, and therefore put it into our hands. The owner has been found, and has received his pocket-book, letter, and money; and we think it not improbable that before the day's paper goes to press, the money will be in the hands of Messrs. Mudge & Co., for tickets. This individual stated that this thirteen dollars was all the money he had in the world, except nine shillings.

"Portland, Sept. 23, 1832.

"*Mr. Mudge & Co.* :—Being brought from affluence to a state of absolute need, and one of the aggravating kind; three years ago I was in possession of an elegant farm in New Hampshire, Coos county; it was considered to be worth \$3,000. One of my neighbors, by the name of Smith, had \$1,000, and proposed to go to trading. I, not being very well, consented to mortgage my farm for \$1,500, for two years. Said Smith took his money and mine and went to Boston to purchase the goods, and for me to get a store in readiness for the reception of the goods at the appointed

time, but no Smith returned. Two weeks more passed away, but they were very long—no Smith came then. I began to be exceedingly troubled. I went to Boston: he had not been there. I pursued him to St. Marks, East Florida—gave it up—never heard a sound of him since. I rented the farm ever since. It is very much out of repair, not being able to do much on account of my severe loss of what I gained by the sweat of my brow. Smith has been the cause of my family experiencing months of pain and sorrow. I have a wife, five children, and aged parents, and a decrepit sister, all who look to me for their support. My parents must go to the poor-house in spite of all that I can do; yes, that must be their doom. My property is reduced to one cow and pig; and nothing to subsist upon this winter of any consequence. I have been to Boston this season to see what I could do. I received a letter from the man that I mortgaged my place to; says he, I have been to see your family; they are all well, but full of trouble. If you will get the \$1,500 in six weeks after the redemption is out, you may have the place again, provided you will get sufficient bondmen for the interest. *If you can get the \$1,500* sounded and resounded in my ear. I took what I had earned this season, went to the lottery office, and purchased \$57 worth of tickets of your lottery. It so happened, to my ill-fortune, that I drew only \$11 from the \$57. There went my summer's work. Then I was down again. Then the thoughts of maintaining my family this winter rushed on me in torrents.—Thought I, to Portland I will go, and from there home. As I came into the city I concluded to tarry a while. After I took lodgings, this thought came into my head; whether good or not, I know not; but I hope it will prove a benefit to me, viz: to give you a true detail of my situation, and inclose what money I have; and if you could work it so that I could draw a little something to support my family this winter, if nothing more, this little sum of money that I have inclosed in this paper will be a productive one. There is not one person on earth that is more needy of fourteen or fifteen hundred dollars than poor me—nor more deserving. Now I pray you to adhere to my petition, if you can assist any way to do it, so that I can go home to my family with a joyful heart. I never will divulge it during life: no one but God in heaven knows what my mind on this subject is. It is dire necessity that induces me to write you thus. I never thought of such a thing before, and hope you will take no offence. Please to drop a line in the post-office immediately, for I want to know my fate. Do, I entreat you to do the best for me that you can. You say that you will warrant nine prizes in twenty tickets; it is a mystery to me; but you know best. You can put the capital prize in quarters, and give me all the chance you can, says your distressed E. H. H—.

"Please to drop a line in the Portland post-office, when to come for the tickets. I purchase quarters in the three thousand dollars lottery. I want you to let me have all you can for fifteen dollars. I am an entire stranger in this place; every thing looks very dismal to me. Cold winter is fast approaching. When I look home, O, my heart aches.

"I don't see why twenty prizes don't come in twenty tickets, as they are all put into the wheel at once, or as likely not to be one prize in a package. Losses, writs, and executions, and doctors' bills, have eat up four thousand dollars for me; but if I could get the farm back again, I think I should be a happy man again.

"I want you to let me have tickets that you know will draw something—I know you can—because I want to go home soon and make them all rejoice. Pray don't mention what I have wrote to you."

NOTE 11. PAGE 36.

The following is an extract from the Presentment of a Grand Jury of New York, dated November 12, 1830:—

"The Grand Inquest of the city and county of New York respectfully present to the Common Council the great and growing evils of Lotteries, which are carried on to an extent beyond the calculations of those who have not paid particular attention to the subject. From the examination the Jury have been able to make, they find that from the 12th of August last to the 10th of November instant, fourteen lotteries have been drawn, namely:—

3	with	124,000	tickets,	at	\$8,	scheme price	\$992,000
11	"	376,000	"	"	4,	" "	1,504,000
14		500,000	"			" "	\$2,496,000

As lotteries are drawn once in every week, by this ratio there would be for the year 52 lotteries drawn, with about 1,857,000 tickets, amounting to about \$9,270,000. * * * * * As there is much apparent mystery in drawing lotteries, the Grand Jury are not able to state with precision the amount of money paid weekly or yearly for tickets in this city; nor the profits there are realized by those who are engaged in selling them, or in drawing the lotteries.

"The calculations above rest upon the facts contained in the schemes as published. If they are defective, it must be shown by those immediately interested in them. Enough may be ascertained upon either ground, to show that lotteries, as now managed, are an evil of the most alarming nature, both in a moral and pecuniary point of view. It is perfectly obvious that no tax of a quarter of the amount that is paid for lottery tickets could be levied upon the inhabitants at large, without producing the most serious uneasiness, if not disturbance. But the losses by lottery tickets fall upon comparatively few, and most of those few are of a class that can ill afford to endure them. They create a spirit of gaming, which

is productive of idleness, vicious pursuits and habits, and which lead to the ruin of credit and character, and frequently to other crimes."

NOTE 12. PAGE 37.

The statement here presented was made up from one contained in Mr. Tyson's pamphlet in relation to Lotteries, published in Philadelphia, in January last, and which has been before referred to. We had a similar statement in preparation at the time the above pamphlet was received ; and which, in regard to several of the states, and so far as it was complete, agreed very nearly with Mr. Tyson's. We however have chosen to adopt his, as it is founded upon unquestionable authority, being " taken from an accurate list of schemes up to Dec. 1, 1832," including eleven months. We have, therefore, taken his statement and added one-eleventh to the several amounts, to complete the year.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

AN ACT FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF LOTTERIES.

SEC. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That, from and after the passing of this act, if any person shall make, sell, or offer for sale;—or shall have in his possession with intent to sell, offer for sale, or negotiate;—or be in any wise aiding or abetting in the sale of any lottery ticket, or part of any lottery ticket, or of any certificate, bill, token, or security, purporting to entitle the owner, bearer, holder, or any other person, to any share or interest in any prize to be drawn in any lottery not authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth;—or shall draw, or aid or assist in drawing any such lottery;—or shall aid or be concerned in the managing or conducting of any such lottery;—or shall knowingly suffer or permit the selling of any lottery ticket, or the drawing or managing of any such lottery, in any house, store, or other building, owned, rented, or occupied by him, within this Commonwealth; or shall knowingly suffer or permit any lottery ticket or part of a lottery ticket to be raffled for or won by throwing dice in any house, shop, or other building owned, rented, or occupied by him within this Commonwealth, every such person shall forfeit and pay a sum not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than two thousand dollars, to be recovered by indictment or information, before any court of competent jurisdiction; one half of said fine or forfeiture for the use of the Commonwealth, and the other half to the person or persons who shall prosecute therefor: and if any person, who shall have been arrested for an offence under this section, and been convicted thereof, shall, after such arrest, commit either of the offences aforesaid, he shall, in addition to the fines and forfeitures aforesaid, be sentenced, for every subsequent offence, to labor in the house of correction, or to the common gaol, if tried in any county where no house of correction shall have been established, for a term of time not less than three months, nor more than twelve months.*

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this act, if any person shall advertise or cause to be advertised, for sale, any lottery ticket, or part of any lottery ticket, or any certificate, bill, token, or security, purporting to entitle the owner, bearer, or holder, or any other person, to any share or interest in any prize, to be drawn in any lottery not authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth;—or shall exhibit any sign, symbol, or other emblematic representation of a lottery, or of the drawing of a lottery, or in any way indicating where any such lottery ticket or part of a lottery ticket, certificate, bill, token, or security, may be purchased or received, or shall in any manner invite or entice others to*

purchase or receive any such lottery ticket, part of a lottery ticket, certificate, bill, token or security;—such person shall forfeit and pay, for each and every such offence, a sum not less than *thirty dollars*, nor more than *one hundred dollars*, to be recovered by information or indictment before any court of competent jurisdiction; one half of said fine or forfeiture for the use of the Commonwealth, and the other half to the person or persons who shall prosecute therefor.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That, from and after the passing of this act, if any person shall make, sell, or offer for sale, in this Commonwealth, any fictitious lottery ticket, or part of such ticket, or any ticket or part of any ticket in any fictitious or pretended lottery, knowing such ticket or lottery to be fictitious, or in any lottery not authorized by the Legislature of one of the United States, knowing the same not to be so authorized;—or shall make, sell, or offer for sale, any fictitious certificate, bill, token, or security, or shall receive any money or other valuable consideration for any such ticket or part of a ticket, certificate, bill, token or security, knowing the same to be fictitious, purporting that the owner, bearer, or holder thereof, or any other person, is or shall be entitled to receive any prize or part of a prize that may be drawn in any such lottery;—or shall make or have in his possession, with intent to sell or negotiate, any such fictitious ticket or part of a ticket, bill, token or security, knowing the same to be fictitious—every person so offending, and being thereof convicted, before any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be punished by imprisonment and confinement to labor in the State Prison, for a term of time not less than one year, nor more than three years. And, upon the trial of any prosecution for either of the offences described in this section, whether by indictment or information, any ticket or part of a ticket, certificate, bill, token or security, purporting to entitle any person to any prize, or part of any prize that may be drawn in any lottery, and which the defendant shall have been proved to have sold, or offered for sale, or for which he shall have received any valuable consideration, shall be deemed to be false, spurious, fictitious, and pretended, unless the defendant shall prove that the same when it was sold, or offered for sale by him, was an original and genuine ticket, or part of a ticket, in a lottery authorized by the Legislature of one of the United States, existing and undrawn at the time of sale, or offered for sale, and binding upon the managers of such lottery or other person or persons authorized by the Legislature of such State, to issue such ticket, or part of a ticket. And any person or persons who shall prosecute to conviction any one who may have committed either of the offences described in this section, shall be entitled to receive from the treasury of the Commonwealth the sum of fifty dollars for every such conviction; and a warrant shall be granted therefor, upon the certificate of the judge of the court before which the conviction shall have been had, that such person or persons are entitled to such reward, as such prosecutor or prosecutors.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That, on complaint of the violation of any of the provisions of this act, made under oath or affirmation to any

justice of the peace, or of any justice of any police court, such justice shall issue a warrant for the apprehension of the offender or offenders, and if he see cause, shall bind over said offender or offenders to the next court of common pleas, to be held within the county where the offence shall be alleged to have been committed, or to the municipal court of the city of Boston, if within the county of Suffolk, to be tried for such offence.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That all money received by any inhabitant of this Commonwealth, or by any person residing therein, for or on account of any prize or part of a prize, that may have been drawn or pretended to be drawn by or upon any real or fictitious ticket or part of a ticket, certificate, bill, token or security, in any real or pretended lottery, purchased or received within this Commonwealth, shall be forfeited to the Commonwealth, and may be recovered for the Commonwealth, from the person who shall have received it, by information filed in any court of competent jurisdiction; or it may be recovered in any such court, by an action for money had and received, in the name of the Commonwealth by any attorney thereof.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That all acts heretofore passed for the regulation and suppression of lotteries, be, and they hereby are repealed, except in so much as they may affect any actions, suits, informations or indictments that may have been commenced under the sanction of such acts respectively.

[Approved by the Governor, March 23, 1833.]

. We have relied for most of our historical facts in regard to foreign Lotteries upon Dr. Brewster's Edinburgh Encyclopædia, Dr. Rees' New Cyclopædia, and upon the Encyclopædia Americana—works of undoubted authority, and of the highest character.

We are also indebted for several valuable facts to a very useful and interesting Pamphlet, prepared by Job R. Tyson, Esq., entitled "A Brief Survey of the great extent and evil tendencies of the Lottery System as existing in the United States," and recently published at Philadelphia. The facts inserted in the appendix, and marked with the initials J. R. T. are taken from that publication.



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ARTICLE II OF THE CONSTITUTION.

"THE objects of this Society shall be to promote the improvement and mutual acquaintance of the young men of Boston, the advancement of virtue and morality, and the extension of kindness and fellowship to young men who may become residents in our city."







18

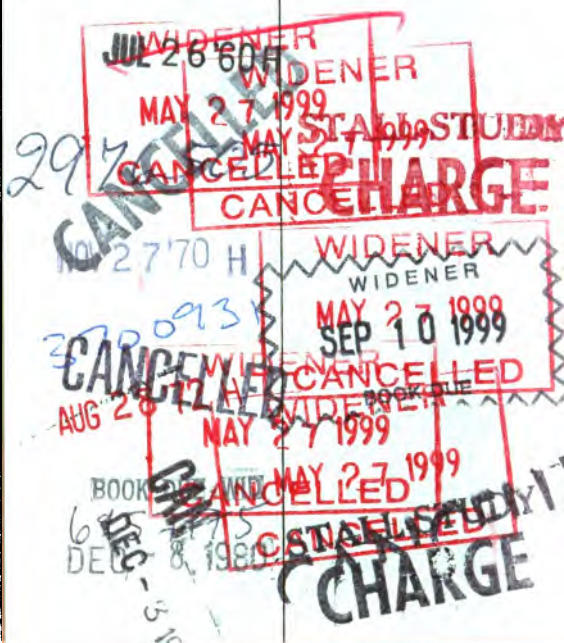
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